

Hafa Adai!

Torres seeks talks with Legislature on expenditure plan for \$515M. **PAGE 3**

Highway Express donates sacks of rice to Ohala Foundation. **PAGE 5**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 73

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021

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AG: 2 votes unconstitutional

» **Manibusan recommends filing certified question to high court to resolve tie-breaker rule dispute**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney General Edward Manibusan has issued an opinion that the House of Representatives' tie-breaker rule that allows the speaker to vote twice in the event of a tie contravenes the CNMI Constitution's provision

CHCC to launch pop-up vaccine tent

By **JUSTINE NAUTA**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will be launching a Pop-Up Vaccination Site for the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine for the elderly population this Saturday at the System of Care in San Antonio from 8am to 12pm.

According to CHCC's Facebook page, the Janssen vaccine, which only requires one dose, will be administered at the System of Care near the San Antonio basketball court for those who are 60 years and older. There are only 150 slots

See CHCC on **Page 4**

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
■ Red: Least safe
■ Orange
■ Yellow
■ Blue
■ Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, April 13, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	17,154
Fully Vaccinated:	12,586
Moderna	
Initiated:	2,479
Fully Vaccinated:	1,935
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	49

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,833	14	7,847
Recovered	7,670	5	7,675
Active	22	22	36
Deaths	136	0	136
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			145,918

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	160	0	160
Traced via Travel Screening	124	0	124
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			26,131*
Days since last community transmission			28

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

on the minimum vote requirement.

In his opinion last Friday, Manibusan also recommended that due to the importance of resolving the constitutionality of the tie-breaker rule and the likelihood



Manibusan



Villagomez

that it will be invoked regularly during the present term,
See AG on **Page 4**

Cui surrenders copy of phone records

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

Cui Li Jie, president of Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd., which is the parent company of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, has given the court a copy of her phone records, in accordance

See CUI on **Page 4**



Jie



COURTESY CALL

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, center, meets with Philippine Consul Alex O. Vallespin from the Philippine Consulate General-Agana, who is accompanied by honorary Philippine consul to the CNMI Glicerio Eli DM. Araho, second from left, during a courtesy call last March 31. Torres extended his administration's appreciation on behalf of the CNMI community for the ongoing Philippine consular mission, among other outreach work. Also in photo are key team members of the Honorary Philippine Consulate-CNMI: Annamae Adaza, Mario Mayuga, and Ariel Mariano and Ulysses Torres-Sabuco (not in photo). For nearly a month now, the Philippine Consulate General-Agana and Honorary Philippine Consulate-CNMI has been providing joint consular work, serving more than 2,500 Filipino nationals and their families needing consular assistance.

ULYSSES TORRES-SABUCO/PHILHONCON

Japan to start releasing Fukushima water into sea in 2 years

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's gov-

ernment decided Tuesday to start releasing treated radioactive water from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant

into the Pacific Ocean in two years—an option fiercely opposed by fishermen, residents and Japan's neighbors.

The decision, long speculated but delayed for years due to safety concerns and protests,

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Cleaning company Sure Cleene in Chalan Lamlau is making hay while the sun shines.

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NATION

A police officer had intended to fire a Taser but fatally shoots a Black man with a gun.

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Local

Four establishments closed, cited in sanitary inspections

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Environmental Health Disease Prevention closed down four establishments in March for serious violations of health and sanitation standards.

The Lao Market in Chalan Kanoa was shuttered on March 18, followed by Pacific Star Wholesale in Chalan Kanoa on March 23, Green Consume Market in As Lito on March 26, and Family Store in Garapan on March 30. It was not immediately learned if these establishments have already reopened since

then. The EHDP press statement yesterday provided the suspension dates for the four establishments but not the date when they were certified to resume operations. Establishments that are closed down for any health safety violations are usually allowed to resume operations once they rectify any cited violation.

These four cited establishments arose from the sanitary inspections that EHDP did in March on retail, eating, and drinking establishments, with the following results:

GRADE A

1. D'Elegance Restaurant, Garapan
2. Julie's BBQ Stand, Garapan
3. Tribes Bar & Grill, Garapan
4. Korea House Restaurant, Susupe
5. Free Town Wholesale, San Antonio
6. Himawari, Garapan
7. JM Gift Shop, Chalan Lau Lau
8. Zoom Café, Susupe
9. Tian Market I, Chalan Kanoa
10. Star Water, Garapan

11. The Old B-Bank, Garapan
12. Aqua Resort Club, Achugao
13. Marianas Breeze, Gualo Rai
14. Star Sand, Garapan
15. Furusato Restaurant, Garapan
16. Green Consume Market II, Chalan Lau Lau
17. Terry and Bolis Snack Bar, Kagman
18. Paris Croissant Bake Shop, Garapan
19. Coffee Shop, Dan Dan
20. Sister Market, San Antonio

21. New Sara Market, Capitol Hill
22. Rendezvous Restaurant, Chalan Lau Lau
23. Winchell's Donut House, Susupe
24. Salty's Bar and Grill, Garapan

Tinian:

1. Island Store
2. Tinian Ice & Water Bottling Co.
3. Kerida's Restaurant & BBQ House
4. Tian Hong Market
5. Noi Thai's Kitchen
6. K-Twon Coffee

Rota:

1. Katie's Catering
2. Pizzaria Bar & Grill
3. Harvest Mart
4. Lucky II Mart
5. 3 Kings Market TOO!

GRADE B

1. Pier Restaurant, Garapan
2. Wu's Beans and Sprouts Wholesale, As Lito
3. Café Judy's, As Lito
4. Genpro Wholesale, San Antonio
5. Aiko's Café, Dan Dan
6. XK Market, Chalan Kanoa

GRADE C

1. New Top Store, Dandan (PR)

Possible termination for firefighter accused of sexual assault

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

If proven guilty by the CNMI justice system, the firefighter who was arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a coworker will also be sacked, according to Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Commissioner Dennis Mendiola, who emphasized the department's zero tolerance for sexual harassment.

In an interview with Mendiola about the recent arrest of

firefighter Peter Litulumar, he stated that the department has zero tolerance for sexual mistreatment and if the individual is found in violation, the department will terminate him immediately.

"We don't condone any sexual mistreatment of any employee, male or female. We take this case seriously and, depending on what comes out of the investigation and if found in violation, then we're going to take further action, and I can assure you that it'll

be termination. We're going to continue to advocate for victims and make sure that they get their due process. That's pretty much my policy. We won't accept [this] in the department," he said.

Mendiola stressed that the department stands firm on its policy of zero sexual misconduct and will take the appropriate actions, depending on the outcome of the investigation.

As a result of this recent incident, Mendiola said the

department is working with the Office of Personnel Management to reinstate sexual harassment classes that will reemphasize the department's guidelines against sexual harassment.

"Sometimes it just starts off with just the guys and gals joking around. It's the routine in the workplace but then there's that line where we don't cross. So I think we need to go back and get some training just so that everybody can understand what's

that line like, and it is unacceptable to cross this line. As soon as [we] get confirmation dates, the entire department is going to go through that training again," Mendiola said.

In addition, Mendiola said he has already made arrangements to ensure that if Litulumar makes bail and is given consent to return to work pending trial, he and the victim will not cross paths.

"Currently we already transferred the lady to a different division. Likewise, the individual will be transferred

to administrative duties pending adverse action, so they won't come across each other. We can't just jump the gun and take action and then we have to backpedal. So, again, we're waiting on that investigation to the conclude," he said.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Litulumar was arrested last Thursday for sexual assault in the second degree after a co-worker alleged that he came to work drunk and sexually assaulted her while she was taking a nap.



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Saipan

Torres seeks talks with Legislature on expenditure plan for \$515M

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said he wants to talk with the Legislature on an expenditure plan—which he described as

Grijalva, Kili hail Sierra Zorita appointment

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Natural Resources Committee chair Raul M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.) and vice chair Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) praised yesterday President Joe Biden's hiring of Gretchen Sierra Zorita to the newly created position of White House associate director for Puerto Rico and Territories, which will coordinate with the U.S. Congress to better address longstanding issues of importance to the millions of citizens and nationals living in U.S. territories.

"The Biden administration's choice to create this position and staff it with such an experienced, knowledgeable leader is admirable and deserves our

very complex—for the estimated \$515 million that's allocated to the CNMI under the American Rescue Plan Act.

When asked for an update on the expenditure plan at a radio news briefing last Friday, Grijalva said, "The executive branch can improve the lives of millions of U.S. citizens and nationals living in the territories by expanding access to federal programs that already benefit other Americans, helping to resolve Puerto Rico's political status, and strengthening meaningful political representation. The Biden administration understands that we can't claim to live up to American ideals as long as we treat millions of people as second-class citizens, and I look forward to working closely with Ms. Sierra Zorita to address these issues as soon as possible."

"President Biden's deci-

Torres said his administration is still working on it and that he needs to bring in the Legislature.

He said the plan is divided into different categories that will hopefully be issued this week or next week. "There's so much complexity, so many subtitles, that we've been meeting with the Cabinet members and some of the other branches to look at the subsections or subtitles," the governor said, adding that there are many opportunities for the government's many departments to avail of those funds. Torres said they will be meeting with the Legislature hopefully early this week and that they will go from there. The governor earlier assured that the Legislature need not be concerned about transparency as he has nothing to hide in the government's expenditure plan that will be submitted to the federal government. The House narrowly passed House Bill 22-33 that will give the Legislature appropriation powers over the \$515 million, but Torres said there is no need for that legislation. He said a review of the American Rescue Plan Act shows that its expenditure authority lies within the CNMI Treasury and the head of state, in this case, Torres.



Torres

Train to be a Certified Nursing Assistant



The Northern Marianas College, in collaboration with the CNMI Area Health Education Center, is offering a Nursing Assistant Certificate Program this summer.

NMC

The Northern Marianas College Nursing Program, in collaboration with the CNMI Area Health Education Center, is offering a Nursing Assistant Certificate Program that will run for 10 weeks this summer from May 31 through Aug. 6, 2021.

This course will prepare entry-level nursing assistants to provide basic nursing care to the elderly, ill, and persons with disabilities in long-term care, hospitals, clinics, schools, and home health settings. It is designed for any student or individual interested in beginning a career as a nursing assistant, individuals interested in taking a nursing course but still at developmental English and math levels, and for persons already employed as a nursing assistant but have not completed formal course work.

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to take the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program Competency Examina-

tion administered by the NMI Board of Nursing. Upon passing the NNAAP exam, participants will become licensed as a Certified Nursing Assistant, be placed on the NMI Board of Nursing Registry for Nursing Assistants, and practice as a CNA in the CNMI, U.S. territories or U.S. mainland.

Interested applicants can sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/nursingsummerprogram>. Participants can also visit the NMC website at www.marianas.edu/admissions to submit an application with NMC admission requirements: official transcript, health evaluation form, valid photo identification, and a copy of diploma. High school students must meet the criteria of NMC's Early Admissions Program to enroll: official transcript, health evaluation, valid photo identification, and have a GPA of 3.0 or a recommendation letter from a school counselor. All applicants must meet the prerequisite of EN095 (Integrated

Reading and Writing II) and MA091 (Beginning Algebra). Seating is limited to 20 students.

For more information on tuition and other applicable fees, visit the NMC website at <http://www.marianas.edu/nursing> (refer to Nursing Assistant Admissions Guidelines-2021). Students who will participate in this program are required to be vaccinated for Covid-19.

For more information on the program, contact Andrew Mendiola at (670) 237-6744 or email at andrew.mendiola@marianas.edu. Interested applicants can also contact Maria Aguon from the NMC Tinian Center at 433-0657 or email at maria.aguon@marianas.edu.

NMC thanks its partners for supporting this program: CNMI Public School System, DOL Workforce Investment Agency, Tinian Mayor's Office, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and NMI Board of Nursing. (NMC)

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Banks swamped with long lines

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The issuance of stimulus funds to over 31,000 taxpayers resulted in long lines of people and vehicles yesterday at banks, particularly at the Bank of Guam where the CNMI government usually issues funds to the public.

At BOG Garapan, a long line of people formed at the walk-up window and lines of customers for the inside tellers snaked out of the bank all the way to the side of the building. A separate line for cars also formed for the drive-thru.

A 55-year-old woman who identified herself only as Sue said she had

been in line for the walk-up window since 7am and that when she finally reached the teller after more than an hour, she was asked if she has an account with BOG. When she replied that she does not have one and was only there to cash the stimulus check, the apologetic teller explained that the walk-up window is only for those who have an account with the bank. Sue said she was told that she has to proceed to the other line for tellers inside and that she needs to show two identification cards.

"The [bank] manager was right outside and he did not even bother to tell us...to line up at this [other line]," she said, adding that she had to move to a longer line that reached to the



front of the adjacent Club 88.

"Now it's already almost 10:30am. They're so unorganized!" said Sue, who at the time was still by a narrow entrance that leads to the drive-thru.

Sue, however, said she is happy to receive the stimulus money, which is worth \$1,400. "I'm using the money to pay my bills," she said.

Jack Muña, 75, who was already near the walk-up window, said he had been on the line for 20 minutes already and that his calculation is that it would take half an hour before he reaches the teller. Muña said it was slow because there's only one teller. He said the longer line is for the inside tellers.

Muña said the BOG management should try to find a way to make the services go faster because falling in line outside is very hot. "They used to have umbrellas [but] they don't put it out anymore for customers," he said.

He did acknowledge that getting this third stimulus is great for a lot of people at this time of the pandemic.

The issuance of stimulus funds to over 31,000 taxpayers causes long lines of people and cars for those who try to cash or deposit their checks at the Bank of Guam in Garapan yesterday. The line of cars even reached at one point to Kristo Rai Church area.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

He, however, stated that every time the federal government releases money to the public, most of the money is spent on something unrelated to COVID-19.

In his case, he plans to save some of his \$1,400 stimulus for Christmas and use the rest to take care of personal stuff.

Mila Isip, 63, said she got on the line at 9am and that it took her more than an hour to cash her stimulus check. Isip, who has no BOG account, said the process inside the bank was smooth.

She said she is going to spend part of the money for expenses to repair the typhoon damage on her house.

Leticia Abigania, 69, and her husband, 75-year-old Dominador, were in line for 30 minutes outside the BOG building on the shoulder of Beach Road. Abigania said their grandchild picked up their stimulus checks from the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa last Monday.

She said they are very happy with the stimulus payment and that they will use the money to pay rent, utilities, and to buy food.

JAPAN

From Page 1

came at a meeting of Cabinet ministers who endorsed the ocean release as the best option.

The accumulating water has been stored in tanks at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant since 2011, when a massive earthquake and tsunami damaged its reactors and their cooling water became contaminated and began leaking. The plant's storage capacity will be full late next year.

Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga said ocean release was the most realistic option and that disposing the

water is unavoidable for the decommissioning of the Fukushima plant, which is expected to take decades. He also pledged the government would work to ensure the safety of the water and to prevent damaging rumors on local agriculture, fisheries and tourism.

The plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., and government officials say tritium, which is not harmful in small amounts, cannot be removed from the water, but all other selected radionuclides can be reduced to levels allowed for release. Some scientists say the long-term impact on marine life from low-dose exposure to such large volumes of water is unknown.

The government stresses the safety of the water by calling it "treated" not "radioactive" even though radionuclides can only be reduced to disposable levels, not to zero. The amount of radioactive materials that would remain in the water is also still unknown.

Under the basic plan adopted Tuesday by the ministers, TEPCO will start releasing the water in about two years after building a facility and compiling release plans adhering to safety requirements. It said the disposal of the water cannot be postponed further and is necessary to improve the environment surrounding the plant so residents can live there safely.

AG

From Page 1

a certified question petition to the Supreme Court to resolve the dispute is a recourse that may be explored.

Manibusan issued the opinion after nine Republican representatives and one independent representative sought last March 25 his legal opinion on Article II Section 3 of the NMI Constitution pertaining to the principle of "one representative, one vote." The 10 lawmakers said it is their understanding that House Rule XI Section 10 "Tie Vote" may be in contravention to Article II the NMI Constitution.

Last March 19, House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) had to exercise his authority to break a 10-10 tie to pass a bill that mandates legislative appropriation for the estimated \$515-million Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund that will be allocated to the CNMI.

When asked for comments yesterday, Villagomez said that he has not seen the AG's opinion yet.

Manibusan said they framed the question as whether House Rule XI, section 10 is constitutional.

Manibusan said that, based on their review of the pertinent sections of the Constitution, the 1976 Analysis, and the House Rules of Procedure, he has "reservations" that the tie-breaker rule of having the speaker vote twice during a session in the event of a tie on the final approval of a bill is constitutional.

He said Section 5(c) of Article XII of the Constitution requires a bill to be approved by "at least a majority of the votes cast in" each house of the Legislature.

"This is the threshold number of votes needed to approve a bill," Manibusan pointed out, adding that if the vote falls short of the majority of votes cast, the bill does not pass the House floor for transmittal to the Senate.

He said the House failed to muster the majority of the votes necessary to approve the bill.

The AG said Section 5(c) of Article II of the Constitution states that "the legislature may not enact a law except by bill and no bill may be enacted without the approval of at least a majority of the votes cast in each house of legislature."

He said the 1976 Analysis of the Commonwealth Constitution sheds light on the intent of the framers in drafting Section 5(c) which has remained unchanged since the original Constitution was approved.

Manibusan said that, based on the Analysis, the framers intended that Section 5(c) be a minimum requirement and that the Senate, or the House, could require a greater margin than the "majority of votes cast." For example, the AG said, a higher voting requirement could be based on a majority of the members of the Senate or the House; or a majority of the members present at a session. "Both scenarios would increase the number of votes necessary to pass a bill," he said.

Instead of raising a bar on the number of affirmative votes to pass a bill, Manibusan said House Rule XI, Section 10 creates a tie-breaker rule that "when the vote for or against a proposition are equal, the speaker may cast a second vote to break the tie." He said the language in the House rule does not state that the speaker's

second vote does not apply to the final disposition of a bill and uses the word "proposition."

Used only in Section 10 of the House Rules, the word "proposition" as commonly understood means "something offered for consideration: proposal," Manibusan said.

He said a motion to approve a bill could be encompassed within the broad meaning of proposition and would trigger the speaker's second vote if he decides to cast an additional vote on a motion to approve a bill.

He said the speaker's second vote to break a tie contravenes the threshold voting requirement in Section 5(c) that a bill must receive the "majority of votes cast."

The AG said under Section 5(c), when the casting of votes on the motion to approve a bill fails to garner the minimum threshold of a "majority of votes cast," the motion is deemed disapproved and the bill does not move past the House floor to be transmitted to the Senate for action.

Unlike the U.S. Senate and other jurisdictions, there is no tie breaker rule provided in Section 5(c) or anywhere else under the CNMI Constitution to get around the threshold of "majority of votes cast," Manibusan said.

He said the 1976 Analysis makes clear that Section 5(c) is the minimum vote requirement and neither the House, nor the Senate, can circumvent the minimum vote requirement by rule or by statute.

"The only recourse is for either house to raise the vote requirement by using the total number of members of the House or Senate, or by using the total number of members present at the session," Manibusan said.

CUI

From Page 1

with a court order that directed her to preserve all her phone records.

According to a declaration from Cui's lawyer, Juan Lizama, and her translator, How-Yo Chi, that was filed yesterday, IPI's information technology staff Rick Brien and Brandon Benson were able to make a forensic copy of Cui's cell phone, including all WeChat data—as well as other email accounts, messaging accounts, or other Electronically Stored Information, or ESI, that she has used—and has submitted the copy to the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

This was in response to a directive that U.S. District Court Chief Judge Ramona Manglona issued to Cui last March 26 to make forensic evidence of any and all cell phones that she used in 2020, including data from her WeChat account, email accounts, messaging accounts, or other ESI.

It was lawyer Aaron Halegua who filed the motion requesting that the court to issue an order requiring Cui to make a forensic copy of her cell phone, saying that, unless the court issues the order, the data will likely be lost forever and result in irreparable harm to plaintiffs. Halegua is one of two lawyers who represent seven construction workers who are suing IPI and its former contractor and subcontractor, MCC International and Gold Mantis, over labor and human trafficking allegations. The other lawyer is Bruce Berline.

The plaintiffs are Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Qingchun Xu, and Duxin Yan. They have asked the federal court to issue an order awarding them \$3.86 million in compensatory damages and \$7.72 million in punitive damages.

The plaintiffs have already reached a settlement agreement with MCC International and Gold Mantis, co-defendants in the case.

CHCC

From Page 1

available, so CHCC encourages those who are interested to pre-register.

CHCC said those who are interested in taking the one-dose vaccine can register by visiting the CHCC call center at IT&E Chalan Lau Lau from 8am to 5pm or by calling 682-7468 from 7:30am to 8pm. CHCC says online registration for the pop-up tent at the San Antonio location is not available.

Additionally, the Northern Marianas College encourages its students to get vaccinated while supplies are available. Through its Facebook page, NMC said they "strongly urge"

students to get vaccinated not only for their safety but that of their family and the community.

CHCC reminds the community that the free COVID-19 testing will be available today at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe from 1pm to 4pm.

On top of having a new site that will cater to the elderly in the south, CHCC, along with the COVID-19 Task Force and TurnKey Solutions has officially launched its CNMI COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard that reports live and on-demand vaccination data.

This means that the CNMI population will be able to see how many vaccines have been administered in real time. This can be seen at vaccinecnmi.com/vax-dashboard.

Highway Express donates sacks of rice to the Ohala Foundation



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Highway Express employees pose with former Tinian mayor and lawyer Joey "JP" San Nicolas, third from right, during the turnover of 50 sacks of rice that will be donated to the Ohala Foundation's food bank on Tinian.

D&W Saipan Inc., which does business as Highway Express, recently donated 50 40-pound sacks of rice to the Ohala Foundation's food bank on Tinian.

"Thank you to D&W general manager Mr. Sung Soo Lim for their donation. We're extremely happy as this large donation of rice will go toward feeding hundreds of people," said Ohala Foundation chair Phillip Mendiola-Long. "We've been able to distribute food boxes to over 300 unique families over

the course of 11 distribution events. That comes out to over 10,000 meals given to families in need."

The donation was coordinated by former Tinian mayor and lawyer Joey "JP" San Nicolas. "This is a fine example of our friends and families in Saipan helping our friends and families on Tinian," said San Nicolas, who added that Tinian Shipping shipped the sacks of rice to Tinian.

The Ohala Foundation will launch a new "It's Only .33 Cents Per Day Donation

Drive," which is equal to a commitment of just \$10 per month to help feed families in need. "We need 200 people to sign up and commit to just .33 cents per day to help these families on Tinian. We're also in the planning stages to expand to Rota by May and Saipan by October," Long said.

Donors may reach out to the foundation by visiting ohala-foundation.org or by calling (670) 433-2664. To donate, visit ohala-foundation.org/donate. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-21-022

Installation of Primary Screen

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Installation of Primary Screen in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; the installation of a primary screen (OFC), foundations, sewer piping, sewer valves and valve box, water service, electrical service, water booster pump, basket strainers, and rehabilitation and modification of existing improvements, along with other miscellaneous features, for one unit at Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi WWTP. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded through Saipan Local Law 20-19.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **April 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-21-022, Installation of Primary Screen" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 27, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLON
Purchasing Officer

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PSS, BOE go to Tinian

Photos by PSS

Public School System and Board of Education leaders met with Tinian public education stakeholders in a series of meetings and dialogues during a visit to the island on April 9, 2021.



Members of the Board of Education, from left to right, teacher representative Phyllis Ain, board member Antonio Borja, non-public school representative Dr. Ron Snyder, vice chair Herman Atalig, chair Andrew L. Orsini, board member Maisie B. Tenorio, and board member Gregory Borja, along with Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada

The Board of Education meeting, which was held at the Tinian Jr. Sr. High School cafeteria and was broadcast live online, was attended by several Tinian public education stakeholders.



Elementary students surprise Tinian Elementary School vice principal Natasha Pascua Friday last week to honor her as the school district celebrates the Vice Principal Week.



Tinian public education personnel warmly welcome Commissioner Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada during his visit Friday last week.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-21-2027

For: Marianas Visitors Authority Office Space Lease

Submission /Closing Date: April 23, 2021 Time: 1:00 p.m.
Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
Attn: Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building
Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **April 14, 2021** at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh
Acting Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

/s/ Priscilla M. Iakopo
Managing Director, MVA



A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) HUMAN TRAFFICKING OUTREACH SPECIALIST

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat Main Office at Sister Remedios Community Center Chalan Kanoa.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: Complete application form, copy of diploma/degree, resume/bio-data; current police clearance within 6 months and a copy of valid CNMI driver's license.

NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.
CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021 AT 4:00PM



Teacher representative Phyllis Ain, left, join the Board of Education meeting on Tinian last Friday.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (Re-announcement)

OPENING DATE: April 14, 2021 • CLOSING DATE: April 30, 2021 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-019	Accountant I	\$26,289.21 - \$33,975.00- per annum Classified

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhc.gov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (SAIPAN)

Has an opening for

Accountant

Core Responsibilities:

- Demonstrate and execute accounting controls and principles.
- Maintain accurate general ledger and preparing month-end P&L and financial statements
- Work and collaborate with a small team.
- Complete and manage daily site audits for accuracy.
- Complete bank account reconciliations in a timely manner.
- Prepare timely BGR tax reports.
- Accurately interpret financials and data.
- Manage business using Quick Books accounting program.
- Must learn NAV POS and Backoffice system.
- Adhere to and meet strict reporting deadlines.
- Manage Accounts payable and Accounts receivable
- Reports directly to the owner.

Core Skills:

- Must demonstrate excellent Microsoft Word, Excel and QuickBooks skills.
- Must demonstrate ability to effectively in English communicate verbally and in writing.
- 5 years accounting experience on Saipan.
- Must have a 4-year accounting degree.
- On island references & police clearance required

E-mail Resume and References to islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com and deltaspn@pticom.com

Rustana Sus
788-1882

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re the Matter of the)
Petition for the)
Appointment of)
General Guardianship) FCD-GU
for:) CIVIL ACTION
NO. 20-0425

RSMW, SMW, CJMMW,)
JMW, MMW, NMW)
Minor Child)
By:)
Rustana Sus)
Petitioner)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom Superior Court, before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 7th day of April, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court



From left, Tinian board member Antonio Borja, non-public school representative Dr. Ron Snyder, vice chair Herman Atalig and chair Andrew L. Orsini.



Board of Education vice chair Herman Atalig makes a point as non-public school representative Dr. Ron Snyder, board member Antonio Borja and teacher representative Phyllis Ain listen.



Federal Programs officer Tim Thornburgh explains how multimillion-dollar Education Stabilization Fund share of the Public School System under the CARES ACT will assist PSS continued commitment to provide uninterrupted learning and teaching to the more than 10,000 students in the CNMI.



Special Education Program director Donna Flores introduces herself to Tinian Public School System staff and personnel.



Head Start and Early Head Start director Lathania Santos answers questions from Tinian public education staff and personnel.



Board of Education member Gregory Borja asks questions as his colleagues—Maisie B. Tenorio, board chair Andrew L. Orsini, and vice chair Herman Atalig—listens.



Human Resources officer Lucretia B. Deleon Guerrero explains the Public School System's personnel hiring policy, among others.



Finance and Budget director Arlene Lizama presents the breakdown of the school district's budget proposal for fiscal year 2021, during last Friday's Board of Education meeting on Tinian.



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council**
P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 322-6537/8
Fax: (670) 322-6548 • TTY: (670) 322-6549 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2021 First General Membership Meeting on Monday, April 19, 2021 at Aqua Resort-Kevin's from 5:00PM - 7:00PM
Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of April 19, 2021

IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2020 Joint SRC and SILC Fourth General Membership Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2020

V. Reports

a. SRC Interim Chairperson

b. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson

c. Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson

d. Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson

e. OVR Acting Director

VI. Action Items

a. Appointment for SRC Vice-Chairperson

b. Appointment for sub-committee chairs

VII. New Business

a. Membership Vacancies

VIII. Public Forum

IX. Miscellaneous/Announcements


X. Next meeting: _____

XI. Adjournment


In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodation (such as large print or sign language interpreter), as well as for those who would prefer to attend virtually, Zoom availability is an option. Please call Tiava To'omata at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6549 (TTY) no later than 4:30PM on Friday, April 16, 2021 to communicate the necessary arrangements.

/s/
PRESTON O. BASA,
SRC Interim Chairperson

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2021

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, **through the** Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an **estimated** \$1,323,784.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of \$867,556.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$386,617.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and \$69,611.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2021.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of person. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single-family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention **and rapid re-housing** activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

You may access the CPD applications on the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net by selecting the "Public Notice/Announcement" menu tab, beginning February 02, 2021.

Applications must be submitted to the NMHC Offices in Garapan, Saipan (Saipan Applicants); NMC Campus, Building A (Tinian Applicants); and Songsong Village, Rota (Rota Applicants) by **April 30, 2021, no later than 4:30 p.m. Applications submitted after April 30 2021, will not be accepted.**

Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD program, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner at 234-6866 or 234-9447.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 73

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Curing the violence pandemic

When President Joe Biden announced his executive action last week to deal with the nation's surging violence, most attention understandably went to his plans to stop the proliferation of so-called ghost guns—firearms that can be hastily assembled from untraceable kits.

But let's not overlook the importance of the community violence prevention and intervention aid that Biden is offering concurrently with his gun control plans. They represent welcome and desperately needed federal support for local programs that treat violence much as we treat infectious disease—as public health problems that can be diagnosed and treated before they become epidemics, or even inoculated against altogether. With some effort and creativity, cities and counties can use the opportunity presented by Biden's program to turn the tide of not just violence but its underlying causes to boot, such as poverty and inequity.

Los Angeles at first adopted the public health approach to violence in dribs and drabs, generally choosing instead to respond to violent crime with harder-hitting policing and mass incarceration. That was a policy decision made here and in jurisdictions around the country in the 1980s in response to the profusion of crack cocaine. It ravaged communities of color. We suffer today from the policy failures of the 1980s and 1990s. Biden's program represents a sort of do-over, already in progress at the local level.

LA's violence prevention strategy has so far focused mostly on gang crime, and it floundered for a decade as a succession of programs—Hope in Youth, L.A. Bridges—failed to demonstrate or document any positive impact on violence. The situation improved in 2009 with the creation of GRYD, the Mayor's Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development, which combines long-standing summer and after-school activities (to counter the influence of youth gangs) with peer peacemakers who keep their finger on the pulse of communities and intervene to prevent outbreaks of retaliatory gang killings.

But much of the deadly violence that began last year and is continuing unabated is not gang-related, and addressing it goes beyond the scope of GRYD's reach.

Los Angeles County, meanwhile, in 2019 established an Office of Violence Prevention within the Public Health Department, incorporating mental health, youth justice and poverty programs. The county's ambition is commendable, but implementation lags.

Biden included \$5 billion for violence prevention in his infrastructure proposal, but it's in Congress' hands and is hardly assured of passage. Still, the executive actions he announced Thursday make already available funding more accessible and flexible, and would support the public health

See PANDEMIC on Next Page

GAETZ AND CONFUSED



The dollar sign President

So far, the defining word of the Biden era is “trillion.” The Joe Biden who portrayed himself as a moderate, old school, bipartisan dealmaker during the presidential campaign is now a distant memory.

He's been replaced by the Joe Biden who is dazzling progressives with his willingness to “go big”—in other words, spend jaw-dropping amounts that would have been unimaginable prior to the pandemic and are still shocking even now.

Why has Biden embarked on a historic spending splurge with nary a whisper of bipartisan support?

Well, Democrats talked themselves into the proposition that there basically isn't any such thing as spending too much money.

Relatedly, the party consensus is that Barack Obama went “too small,” with a stimulus package under a trillion dollars insufficient to the scale of post-financial-crisis recession.

Besides, spending is what Biden can actually do—he can pass his stimulus and relief bills under the so-called reconciliation rules in the Senate, requiring only 50 votes rather than the 60 it takes to break a filibuster.

Finally, any Democratic president is drawn to the heroic allure of FDR and wants to measure himself against the New Deal.

Biden had a recent meeting with historians in the White House at which FDR was much discussed. One of the participants, historian Michael Beschloss, told Axios that FDR or LBJ may be the most apt analogue to how Biden is “transforming the country in important ways in a short time.”

There's no doubt that any Democratic president would envy the sheer amount of dollars that Biden is shoveling out the door.

In fiscal year 2019, the federal government, which wasn't exactly tightening its belt, spent \$4.4 trillion.

Biden is on pace to roughly match that with his first two major legislative initiatives—the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill, and his new \$2.3 trillion infrastructure proposal.

The Biden team almost gives the sense that it is working backward—starting with a big, eye-popping price tag and then figuring out what initiatives can be thrown in to reach the top-line number.

The schools have tens of millions of dollars sitting unspent from prior relief bills, and here comes another \$100 billion to upgrade school buildings in the infrastructure bill.

The states were lavished with \$350 billion in the COVID-19

By **RICH LOWRY**
King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



relief bill, even though many of them didn't lose revenue during the pandemic. Why can't those dollars be spent on infrastructure?

The new proposal is an infrastructure, drinking-water, broadband, home-retrofitting, manufacturing, long-term-care, electric-car, unionization bill—and a few other things besides.

The question is whether, when all the money is spent, anyone will point to any transformative change in the country attributable to the legislation. Or whether, like the Obama stimulus, it will be completely forgettable, money strewn over the landscape without leaving much of a trace.

Certainly, the need for infrastructure spending over and beyond what the federal government, states and localities already spend is oversold.

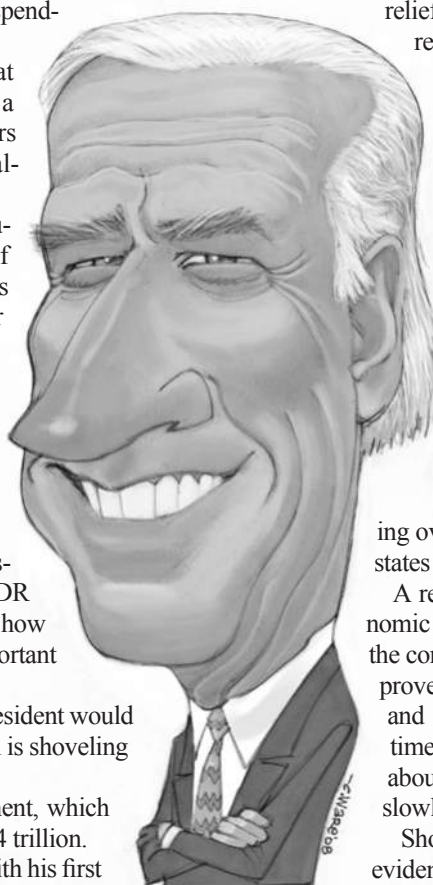
A recent paper for the National Bureau of Economic Research noted: “Over the past generation, the condition of the interstate highway network improved consistently, its extent increased modestly, and traffic about doubled. Over about the same time period, the condition of bridges remained about the same, the number of bridges increased slowly, and bridge traffic increased modestly.”

Shooting money out of a bazooka is not self-evidently what the state of America's infrastructure calls for. But when the only tool you have is huge reconciliation spending bills, everything looks like a

crisis urgently requiring more profligacy.

The bills are also a substitute for passing significant nonspending policy changes. Unlike FDR, Biden has narrow and tenuous congressional majorities. He's not getting HR1, gun control, a higher minimum wage or immigration reform, and perhaps couldn't even if Senate Democrats eliminated the filibuster.

What he can do, which FDR and LBJ never could, is reach for the word “trillion” as much as possible.



EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

No, we can't 'go back' to Asia

The brutal, random attack on a 65-year-old Filipino woman on the streets of New York City has drawn strong condemnation, not only for its sheer violence but because security guards nearby watched without intervening. The assailant, later apprehended, yelled "You don't belong here!" along with racial slurs, in the March 29 attack.

Unfortunately, this was just the latest addition to a long list of incidents targeting those assumed to be Chinese in the wake of COVID-19, which former President Donald Trump and others blamed on China, using racially charged terms like "China virus" and "kung flu."

Hate crimes against Asian Americans skyrocketed by 150% in major U.S. cities last year. Asian Americans are being treated as foreigners and blamed for causing the coronavirus. As an Asian American, I have been called racial slurs on the streets several times. Others I know have been told, "Go back to your own country!"

Some do, or at least make an attempt. I have spoken to many American-born Chinese professionals who, like me, have at some point relocated to China, lured by exciting economic opportunities and a deep yearning for racial belonging which they have not found in the United States.

But even in China, they still feel as though they do not belong. They may find that they are expected to speak perfect

Mandarin and express more loyalty to China than the United States, as is summed up by a question they are often asked: "If China and the United States went to war, which country would you support?"

In searching for racial acceptance in their ancestral homeland, some U.S.-born Chinese people feel as though their American identities are completely erased. As one person I spoke to explained, "People here definitely see you as Chinese first, not American." In essence, moving abroad provides no escape from stereotypes that classify them as Chinese.

Compared to other immigrant groups, many Chinese Americans occupy a privileged status in regard to income, education and integration into mainstream society. However, they grow up without a clear sense of where they fit within the U.S. racial system, which tends to be defined by Black-white relations.

Viewed as racially and culturally "other," Chinese Americans are slotted into two limiting stereotypes: either economically successful "model minorities" whose strong work ethic and family values are deemed superior to other racial or ethnic groups or "forever foreigners" suspected of bearing disease or being loyal to China's communist regime.

No matter the political climate, U.S.-born Chinese people are often not recognized as "real" Americans.

By **LESLIE K. WANG**
The Progressive



*Leslie K. Wang is an associate professor of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts Boston and the author of *Chasing the American Dream Abroad: Chinese Americans in the Ancestral Homeland*, which was recently published by Rutgers University Press. She is a member of the Scholars Strategy Network. This column was produced for The Progressive magazine and distributed by Tribune News Service.*

The current wave of hate crimes against Asian Americans is part of a long history of anti-Asian exclusion fueled by a simplistic view of race that reduces identity and belonging down to physical appearance.

Once we begin to consider the fight against anti-Asian racism as a key part of dismantling white supremacy, the sooner that Asian Americans can find a sense of belonging in their own country. For now, many feel caught between two countries, with no real home.

Prince Philip stayed old school as the British royal family changed

There's no question that the 99-year lifespan of Britain's Prince Philip, the late husband of Queen Elizabeth, encompassed an extraordinary amount of world history. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson noted that Philip, who died Friday morning, was "one of the last surviving people in this country to have served in the Second World War."

But what's just as notable is the range of royal family drama he experienced. In his time, the family went from ceremonial appearances and tours by ocean liner to the Queen paying taxes and considering hiring a diversity officer for Buckingham Palace.

No one in that family was seen as more old school—rightly or wrongly—than Philip. He was a hunter, a tough father to Prince Charles and an occasional politically incorrect speaker in public. The BBC compiled an entire list of his gaffes upon Philip's retirement from royal duty a few years ago.

When Prince Harry and Meghan Markle told Oprah in her revealing interview with them that someone in the royal family had pointedly asked Harry what their (biracial) children might look like, I immediately suspected Philip. It was a relief that Harry later told Oprah that neither Elizabeth nor Philip was the person who had speculated about skin color.

And regardless of Harry's and Meghan's well-publicized issues with the royal family they moved a continent away from, Harry should be on a plane to England for the funeral. Philip was his grandfather. Even as Harry rejects being a working royal, it's his place in that family that has given him the public spotlight to do the things he wants to do now. Meghan should go as well, but considering that she's probably in her last months of pregnancy, plane travel might not be feasible.

Much has been made of Philip chafing at being prince consort (the British royal equivalent of first gentleman) to his wife, the queen, but carrying on with the requisite empty chores dutifully, stiff upper lip and all. Elizabeth, who is nearly 95, and Philip were married for an astonishing 73 years, although he was suspected of having extramarital dalliances.

Philip hasn't fared that well in depictions (fictionalized but with factual snippets) of the royals on TV and in the movies. In "The Queen" he was a stodgy, deer-stalking grump (played by the marvelous James Cromwell). "The Crown" on Netflix has portrayed him in the last few seasons as alternately philandering and devoted—and occasionally charming. In one of my favorite scenes from Season 4, Elizabeth tells Philip she was stunned

By **CARLA HALL**
Los Angeles Times



Carla Hall is a Los Angeles Times editorial board member.

that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called one of her children her favorite. Philip points out that Elizabeth has a favorite child. Elizabeth looks aghast and asks him which one. He smiles at her and stays mum.

As with all the members of the British royal family—at least the ones who don't give interviews to Oprah—it's hard to know who they really are beyond the tabloid reports and TV shows.

But Philip knew what he was getting into when he married then-Princess Elizabeth, a woman who would sooner or later (in their case, just several years hence) become queen. It was a life that required no more heavy lifting than unveiling plaques—and he knowingly joked about that.

He may have been credited with carrying on with as much grace as a man of his generation could, but you can't help but think that in the coming generations of the royal family, it won't be considered a hardship to support your wife in her job. If Princess Charlotte (one of Prince William's and Kate Middleton's three children) ever becomes queen, I would hope and expect that her husband—if she has one—will be as thrilled to be by her side or even walking behind her as Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff appears to be every time he walks into a room with his wife, Vice President Kamala Harris.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Efficient new system at USPS

I am so impressed with the system the U.S. Postal Service has in place now. Post office personnel as well as Customs personnel have always been courteous, efficient, and helpful. But the new system with separate line for yellow card is amazingly efficient.

Thank you!

Jeanne Rayphand
via email

PANDEMIC

From Page 8

approach to violence that LA and the nation desperately need.

(c) 2021 the Los Angeles Times

One cop's crime: What we're learning from Derek Chauvin's trial for killing George

A headline in the Washington Post put it this way: "Policing is not really on trial in Minnesota. That's too bad." Too bad? To the contrary, the trial of ex-cop Derek Chauvin has so far exposed how systematically the accused violated his oath, his training and the standards of his profession.

On the witness stand, Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arra-

dondo testified that in putting his knee on George Floyd's neck for 9 minutes and 29 seconds (longer than the 8 minutes, 46 seconds we all thought), Chauvin was in blatant violation of the department's policies. Police Lt. Richard Zimmerman, who's served on the force for 36 years, said: "Pulling him down to the ground face down, and putting your knee on the neck for that amount of time, it's just uncalled for." Lt. Johnny Mercil, the department's training coordinator on the use of force, called the neck restraint an "unauthorized" act of aggression. Some blue wall.






This is not to subscribe to the notion that everything that's wrong with policing in America is the result of a few bad apples spoiling the bunch. Even in the Big Apple, that's facile. While the vast majority of cops protect and serve with decency and integrity, many departments have chronic problems ingrained in the very culture of the way they enforce the law. Too many cops have a habit of dehumanizing those with whom they deal, especially Black and brown people.

The fact that Chauvin had been the subject of at least 17 misconduct complaints throughout his career and remained on the force is a searing comment of the force for which he worked.

But no fair-minded person can call Derek Chauvin's actions last May 25 an extension of ordinary policing. Whether or not it is deemed to be murder or manslaughter in a court of law, what he did to George Floyd was a distortion of the cop's creed. It was a perversion of duty. Policing is not on trial; one former cop is.

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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:41 AM, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180. Satellite shows mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers across the Marianas, with quite a bit of high cirrus. Combined seas are 4 to 6 feet, with moderate trade winds.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

seconds.

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	89 79 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84 76 °F	
Yap	Scattered Thunderstorms	85 71 °F	
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	86 80 °F	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86 80 °F	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85 78 °F	
Majuro	Scattered Thunderstorms	84 79 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:02 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:31 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:20 AM	8:15 PM	-
Thursday	7:59 AM	9:04 PM	-
Friday	8:40 AM	9:55 PM	-
Saturday	9:25 AM	10:47 PM	-
Sunday	10:13 AM	11:39 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	71 65 °F	
Beijing	Sunny	78 46 °F	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	72 68 °F	
Honolulu	Rain	84 70 °F	
London	Mostly Cloudy	60 40 °F	
Los Angeles	Sunny	71 58 °F	
Manila	Sunny	96 76 °F	
Melbourne	Sunny	69 46 °F	
Miami	Sunny	81 71 °F	
New York	Partly Cloudy	69 45 °F	
Osaka	Overcast	62 45 °F	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	65 45 °F	
Pusan	Sunny	64 37 °F	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	69 50 °F	
Salem	Rain	57 44 °F	
San Francisco	Rain	61 52 °F	
Seoul	Sunny	60 37 °F	
Tokyo	Sunny	65 44 °F	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	80 58 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:06 AM	Low Tide	0.84	
8:27 AM	High Tide	1.78	
3:21 PM	Low Tide	0.17	
9:51 PM	High Tide	1.77	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
GUAM TO ROTA				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily				
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily				
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily				
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily				
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable				

Business

Sure Cleene: Sanitizing is their game



**For more information
or to book a cleaning
service, call 783-
6342 or 234-7873.**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

This past year, Sure Cleene's most popular and in-demand offering is its deep-cleaning service that specializes in promoting and maintaining the cleanliness of the workplace and home in this time of COVID-19.

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While many businesses are seeing red during this era of COVID-19, companies in the cleaning and sanitizing sector appear to be immune to the ravages of the pandemic.

One such company mak-

ing hay while the sun shines is Sure Cleene in Chalan Laulau. Established in May 17, 2019, owner Jennifer Elayda said what makes Sure Cleene different from other cleaning and sanitizing companies on Saipan is they don't discriminate among small and large businesses or offices or

private residences.

"We cater not just to big companies and hotels, but also to the public. Whoever needs our services, we are more than happy to accommodate them," she said.

This past year, Sure Cleene's most popular and in-demand offering is its deep-cleaning

service that specializes in promoting and maintaining the cleanliness of the workplace and home in this time of COVID-19, according to Elayda.

"Since we are currently in a worldwide pandemic, we must be able to take measures to ensure that not only are our hands clean but our surroundings as well since that is what we are exposed to on a daily basis. Sure Cleene offers a deep cleaning service that makes sure that your environment is properly sanitized," she added.

Sure Cleene currently has a promotion where a three-hour cleaning service will only set customers back \$75.

Currently, Sure Cleene's current list of clientele includes the Public School System and other establishments like stores, dance studios, gyms, households, and offices.

Sure Cleene is located at Blue Beach House along Beach Road in Chalan Laulau. It's open every day from 8am to 5pm. For more information or to book a cleaning service, call 783-6342 or 234-7873. You can also contact them via Facebook: Sure Cleene.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Microsoft buying speech recognition firm Nuance in \$16B deal

Microsoft, on an accelerated growth push, is buying speech recognition company Nuance in a deal worth about \$16 billion. The acquisition will get Microsoft deeper into hospitals and the health care industry through Nuance's widely used medical dictation and transcription tools. Microsoft will pay \$56 per share cash. That's a 23% premium to Nuance's Friday closing price. The companies value the transaction including debt at \$19.7 billion. Shares of Burlington, Massachusetts-based Nuance surged about 16% in Monday trading. Nuance has been a pioneer in voice-based artificial intelligence technology and was instrumental in helping to power Apple's digital assistant Siri. It has since shifted its focus to health care, including a product that listens in on exam room conversations between physicians and patients and automatically writes up the doctor's recommendations, such as for prescriptions or lab work. (AP)

Biden wants infrastructure deal, but GOP doubts persist

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden wants

Congress to know he's sincere about cutting a deal on infrastructure, but Republican lawmakers have deep-seated doubts about the scope of his proposed package, its tax hikes and Biden's premise that this is an inflection point for the U.S. as a world power. Biden met Monday afternoon with a bipartisan group of lawmakers and tried to assure them that the Oval Office gathering was not "window dressing." One of the core disputes is over what counts as infrastructure in his \$2.3 trillion proposal. "I'm prepared to negotiate as to the extent of my infrastructure project, as well as how we pay for it," Biden said. "It's going to get down to what we call 'infrastructure.'" Republican Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi indicated after the meeting that he was willing to negotiate with Biden and called it a "good discussion." But a more fundamental disagreement also emerged about whether the United States is losing its status atop the global economy because of its deteriorating infrastructure. "He says that we're a declining superpower, the United States is no longer number one," Wicker said afterward. "I just fundamentally disagree with that."

US budget deficit jumps to record \$1.7 trillion this year

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. government's budget deficit surged to an all-time high of \$1.7 trillion for the first six months of this budget year, nearly double the previous record, as another round of economic-support checks added billions of dollars to spending last month.

In its monthly budget report, the Treasury Department said Monday that the deficit for the first half of the budget year—from October through March—was up from a shortfall of \$743.5 billion in the same period a year ago.

The deficit has been driven

higher by trillions of dollars in support Congress has passed in successive economic rescue packages since the pandemic struck in early March 2020. The latest round came in a \$1.9 trillion measure that President Joe Biden pushed through Congress last month.

Biden's package included individual support payments of up to \$1,400 and the administration rushed to make those payments as soon as the president signed the measure into law. The Treasury Department statement showed that the payments in March totaled \$339 billion.

The budget report showed that the deficit for just March totaled \$659.6 billion, the third-highest monthly deficit. For the six-month period, the \$1.7 trillion deficit total surpassed the previous record of an \$829 billion deficit run up for the six months ending in March 2011. That was a period when the government was spending to deal with the economic damage from the recession caused by the 2008 financial crisis.

Last year's deficit, for the budget year that ended Sept. 30, totaled a record \$3.1 trillion. The Congressional Bud-

get Office estimated in February that this fiscal year's deficit would total \$2.3 trillion. But that estimate did not include the cost of Biden's \$1.9 trillion rescue plan that Congress passed in March or the impact of the administration's "Build Back Better" infrastructure proposal that Congress is considering now.

Nancy Vanden Houten, senior economist at Oxford Economics, said she expects the deficit for this budget year will total \$3.3 trillion, an all-time high but up just 6.5% from last year's record shortfall of \$3.1 trillion.

Taiwan launches shipbuilding program amid China threats

KAOHSIUNG, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan launched an amphibious transport ship Tuesday that's the first from its new naval shipbuilding program begun as China escalates its threats to use military force to annex the island it claims is its territory.

President Tsai Ing-wen presided over the launching ceremony at a shipyard in the southern port city of Kaohsiung for the first in the series of ships intended as a defense against any Chinese invasion.

The ship is "designed and built in accordance with the needs of national defense combat training," Tsai said.

She also called the launch of the new line of 10,000-ton amphibious transport ships an "important milestone for the national shipbuilding in our country."

Taiwan has been boosting its domestic military industries, including building ships and submarines, and is upgrading facilities on the Pratas Islands in the South China Sea that are also claimed by

China. Along with the main island of Taiwan, the government controls territory close to China, including the Kinmen, Matsu and Pescadores island groups that need constant replenishment.

In a pattern of advertising its threats to claim Taiwan by force if necessary, China sent 25 warplanes into Taiwan's southern aerial space on Monday, the Defense Ministry said. It also recently staged naval exercises with its Liaoning aircraft carrier near Taiwan recently.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Navy announced the carrier Theodore Roosevelt and its strike group reentered the South China Sea on its second such deployment this year.

China claims the South China Sea almost in its entirety and strongly objects to foreign naval activity in the resource rich and heavily transited waters, especially the U.S. practice of sailing naval vessels close to Chinese-held features in what it terms "freedom of navigation operations."

Nation

Protest after chief says officer meant to use Taser, not gun

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. (AP)—Police clashed with protesters for a second night in the Minneapolis suburb where an officer who authorities say apparently intended to fire a Taser, not a handgun, fatally shot a Black man during a traffic stop.

Brooklyn Center Police Chief Tim Gannon described the shooting death Sunday of 20-year-old Daunte Wright as “an accidental discharge.” The shooting sparked protests and unrest in an area already on edge because of the trial of the first of four police officers charged in George Floyd’s death.

Hundreds of protesters faced off against police in Brooklyn Center after night-fall Monday, and hours after a dusk-to-dawn curfew was announced by the governor. When the protesters wouldn’t disperse, police began firing gas canisters and flash-bang grenades, sending clouds wafting over the crowd and chasing some protesters away. A long line of police in riot gear, rhythmically pushing their clubs in front of them, began slowly forcing back the remaining crowds.

“Move back!” the police chanted. “Hands up! Don’t shoot!” the crowd chanted back.

By late Monday, only a few dozen protesters remained.

Law enforcement agencies had stepped up their presence across the Minneapolis area



Protesters confronted police over the shooting death of Daunte Wright at a rally at the Brooklyn Center Police Department in Brooklyn Center, Minn., Monday, April 12, 2021.

after Sunday night violence. The number of Minnesota National Guard troops was expected to more than double to over 1,000 by Monday night.

Authorities earlier Monday released body camera footage that showed the officer shouting at Wright as police tried to arrest him.

“I’ll Tase you! I’ll Tase you! Taser! Taser! Taser!” she can be heard saying. She draws her weapon after the man breaks free from police outside his car and gets back behind the wheel.

After firing a single shot from her handgun, the car

speeds away and the officer is heard saying, “Holy (expletive)! I shot him.”

Brooklyn Center Mayor Mike Elliott called the shooting “deeply tragic” and said the officer should be fired.

“We’re going to do everything we can to ensure that justice is done and our communities are made whole,” he said.

Elliott later announced that the city council had voted to give his office “command authority” over the police department.

This “will streamline things and establish a chain of command and leadership,” he

wrote on Twitter. He also said the city manager had been fired, and that the deputy city manager would take over his duties.

The reason behind the firing was not immediately clear, but the city manager controls the police department, according to the city’s charter. Now-former City Manager Curt Boganey, speaking earlier to reporters, declined to say whether he believed the officer should be fired and that she would get “due process” after the shooting.

Brooklyn Center is a modest suburb just north of Minneapo-

lis that has seen its demographics shift dramatically in recent years. In 2000, more than 70% of the city was white. Today, a majority of residents are Black, Asian or Latino.

Elliott, the city’s first Black mayor, immigrated from Liberia as a child. On Monday night, he was joined by Keith Ellison, the state’s first Black attorney general, in addressing a group of

protesters not far from the police department—telling the demonstrators to use their voices but remain safe.

“We are going to get to the bottom of this, we are going to make sure that there’s justice, that there’s officers held accountable,” Elliott can be heard telling protesters on video posted by a reporter for Minneapolis television station KARE.

Hawaii to allow some nurses to perform abortions

HONOLULU (AP)—Gov. David Ige on Monday signed legislation that would make Hawaii the latest state to allow some nurses to perform abortions.

Hawaii law previously said only physicians could perform early, in-clinic abortions. But because of a doctor shortage, several smaller islands lack abortion providers which forces residents of those islands to fly to Honolulu if they need the procedure.

“This act will enable people who desperately need reproductive health care services to receive health care from very high quality health care providers, including advanced practice registered nurses, where they need it, when they need it, and ... in their own communities,” Laura Reichardt, the director of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, said a bill signing ceremony.

The new law, which took effect when the governor signed it, allows advanced practice registered nurses to prescribe medication to end a pregnancy and to perform aspiration abortion, a type of minor surgery during which a vacuum is used to empty a woman’s uterus. The nurses will be able to do both during the first trimester of a pregnancy. The aspiration abortion may be performed in a hospital, clinic or nurse’s office.

Advanced practice registered nurses are nurses who have obtained at least a master’s degree and are trained and certified to diagnose and manage patient problems and prescribe medications.

Several states already allow this category of nurses to perform medication or aspiration abortions, including California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, Virginia, Vermont and West Virginia.

Student fires at officers at Tennessee school, is killed

A student opened fire on officers responding to a report of a possible gunman at a Tennessee high school Monday, and police shot back and killed him, authorities said. The shooting wounded an officer and comes as the community reels from off-campus gun violence that has left three other students dead this year.

Police found the student in a bathroom at Austin-East Magnet High School in Knoxville, a city about

180 miles (290 kilometers) east of Nashville, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Director David B. Rausch said at a news conference. They ordered the student to come out, but he wouldn’t comply, and that’s when he reportedly opened fire, Rausch said. Police fired back.

The student died at the school, and the officer was taken into surgery after being shot at least once in the upper leg, authorities said. The of-

ficer was expected to recover, and no one else was hurt. It wasn’t yet clear why the student brought a gun to school or why he fired at officers.

“It’s a sad day for Knoxville, and it’s tough for Austin-East,” Rausch said.

Asked about the overwhelming police response to a call that came in just before afternoon dismissal, Knoxville Police Chief Eve Thomas said, “We have a student, a school incident. It’s our worst fear, an

active shooter in a school.”

The shooting comes as more classrooms are reopening to students after months of remote learning during the coronavirus pandemic, which cut down the number of mass killings in the U.S. The nation has seen series of mass shootings in recent weeks, including eight people killed at three Atlanta-area massage businesses on March 16 and 10 people killed at Colorado supermarket on March 22.

Expert: Chauvin did not take actions of ‘reasonable officer’

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Prosecutors’ case against former Officer Derek Chauvin drew toward a close Monday with tender memories from George Floyd’s younger brother, along with another look at the harrowing video and testimony from a use-of-force expert who said no “reasonable” officer would have done what Chauvin did.

Seth Stoughton, a professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law, judged Chauvin’s actions against

what a reasonable police officer in the same situation would have done, and repeatedly found that Chauvin did not meet the test.

“No reasonable officer would have believed that that was an appropriate, acceptable or reasonable use of force,” Stoughton said of the way Floyd was held facedown with a knee across his neck for up to 9 minutes, 29 seconds.

He said, too, that the failure to roll Floyd over and render aid “as his increasing medical

distress became obvious” was unreasonable.

He said it was unreasonable as well to think that Floyd might harm officers or escape after he had been handcuffed to the ground. And in yet another blow to Chauvin’s defense, Stoughton said a reasonable officer would not have viewed the yelling bystanders as a threat.

The matter of what is reasonable carries great weight: Police officers are allowed certain latitude to use deadly

force when someone puts the officer or other people in danger. But legal experts say a key question for the jury will be whether Chauvin’s actions were reasonable in those specific circumstances.

On cross-examination, Chauvin attorney Eric Nelson questioned Stoughton’s opinion that putting Floyd on his stomach in the first place was itself unreasonable and excessive.

“Reasonable minds can disagree, agreed?” Nelson asked.

Sailor who shot, killed himself at Hawaii resort identified

HONOLULU (AP)—The Honolulu Medical Examiner’s office on Monday identified the U.S. Navy sailor who shot and killed himself at a luxury resort after a standoff with police over the weekend.

Russell Cruz, 40, of Kailua, Hawaii, died of a gunshot wound to the head, the medical examiner’s office said. The Navy was still notifying relatives Monday and hadn’t released his identity, said Cmdr. Cindy Fields, a spokesperson for the U.S. Pacific Fleet submarine force.

She said in a statement Sunday: “We can confirm that a Sailor assigned to the Pacific Submarine Force is deceased. We are deeply saddened by the loss of a shipmate. Our thoughts and condolences go out to the Sailor’s family and friends.”

Tommy Aiu, a former federal law enforcement officer, had a 5:45 p.m. Saturday reservation for Kahala Hotel &

Resort’s seafood buffet when police on the beach side of the property started clearing people from the pool and other areas.

Police ushered people into a ballroom, where resort workers provided blankets and food including prime rib and sashimi to about 100 people, Aiu said. “They lived up to their five-star rating,” he said. “They took very good care of us.”

Police told him there was a possible suicidal person in a room on the fourth-floor that they had brought in a negotiator. A family member also tried to help, Aiu said.

Honolulu police spokeswoman Sarah Yoro didn’t release additional details Monday, only saying police gave an initial statement at the scene.

A SWAT team entered the fourth-floor room at 3:30 a.m. Sunday and found the man dead, local television stations and a newspaper reported, citing unnamed police officials.

Asia

India reels amid virus surge

NEW DELHI (AP)—The Indian city of Pune is running out of ventilators as gasping coronavirus patients crowd its hospitals. Social media is full of people searching for beds, while relatives throng pharmacies looking for antiviral medicines that hospitals ran out of long ago.

The surge, which can be seen across India, is particularly alarming because the country is a major vaccine producer and a critical supplier to the U.N.-backed COVAX initiative. That program aims to bring shots to some of the world's poorest countries. Already the rise in cases has forced India to focus on satisfying its domestic demand—and delay deliveries to COVAX and elsewhere, including the United Kingdom and Canada.

India's decision "means there is very little, if anything, left for COVAX and everybody else," said Brook Baker, a vaccines expert at Northeastern University.

Pune is India's hardest-hit city, but other major me-



People wait in queues outside the office of the Chemists Association to demand necessary supply of the anti-viral drug Remdesivir, in Pune, India, Thursday, April 8, 2021. AP

ropolises are also in crisis, as daily new infections hit record levels, and experts say that missteps stemming from the belief that the pandemic was "over" are coming back to haunt the country.

When infections began plummeting in India in September, many concluded the worst had passed. Masks and social distancing were abandoned, while the government gave mixed signals about the level of risk. When cases began rising again in Feb-

ruary, authorities were left scrambling.

"Nobody took a long-term view of the pandemic," said Dr. Vineeta Bal, who studies immune systems at the city's Indian Institute of Science Education and Research. She noted, for instance, that instead of strengthening existing hospitals, temporary sites were created. In Pune, authorities are resurrecting one of those makeshift facilities, which was crucial to the city's fight against the virus last year.

US, Philippine forces stage scaled down drills

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—American and Philippines forces on Monday opened one of their most scaled down annual combat exercises in decades due to the pandemic, and organizers said the drills would remain focused on territorial defense, battling terrorism and humanitarian projects.

Philippine Maj. Gen. Edgar Arevalo said the number of American military personnel joining the 11 days of exercises was trimmed from 3,650 to 225, while only 736 Filipino counterparts would participate out of 4,000 as originally planned. Arevalo said all ground exercises except some live-fire drills were canceled to minimize

physical engagement.

The annual exercises were canceled last year as the pandemic spread across the world.

U.S. and Philippine officials hailed the strength of their treaty alliance in an opening ceremony in Manila. They made no mention of their earlier denunciation of Beijing for the swarming of suspected Chinese militia vessels at a Philippine-claimed reef in the disputed South China Sea.

Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said the combat drills called Balikatan, Tagalog for shoulder-to-shoulder, represent "a rock-solid commitment to keep our ties ironclad."

"May this inspire confidence and action from our allies in the region to stand with us in defending our values toward peace and prosperity," Lorenzana said in remarks read by a defense department deputy since he was in isolation after contracting COVID-19.

American Embassy official John Law said the military drills "demonstrate our shared commitment to peace and stability and the adaptability of U.S. and Philippine forces."

"The United States will continue to seek ways, even during the pandemic, to strengthen our security cooperation," Law said.

Bhutan vaccinates 93% of adults in 16 days

THIMPU, Bhutan (AP)—When plotted on a graph, the curve of Bhutan's COVID-19 vaccination drive shoots upwards from the very first day, crossing Israel, the United States, Bahrain and other countries known for vaccinating people rapidly.

Those countries took months to reach where they are, painstakingly strengthening their vaccination campaigns in the face of rising coronavirus cases. But the story of Bhutan's vaccination campaign is nearly finished—just 16 days after it began.

The tiny Himalayan king-

dom wedged between India and China has vaccinated nearly 93% of its adult population since March 27. Overall, the country has vaccinated 62% of its 800,000 people.

The rapid rollout of the vaccine puts the tiny nation just behind Seychelles, which has given jabs to 66% of its population of nearly 100,000 people.

Its small population helped Bhutan move fast, but its success has also been attributed to its dedicated citizen volunteers, known as "desuups," and established cold chain storage used during earlier vaccination drives.

Bhutan received its first 150,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine from neighboring India in January, but the shots were distributed beginning in late March to coincide with auspicious dates in Buddhist astrology.

The first dose was administered by and given to a woman born in the Year of the Monkey, accompanied by chants of Buddhist prayers.

"Let this small step of mine today help us all prevail through this illness," the recipient, 30-year-old Ninda Dema, was quoted by the country's Kuensel newspaper as saying.

World

Muslims navigate restrictions in second pandemic Ramadan

CAIRO (AP)—For Ramadan this year, Magdy Hafez has been longing to reclaim a cherished ritual: performing the nighttime group prayers called taraweeh at the mosque once again.

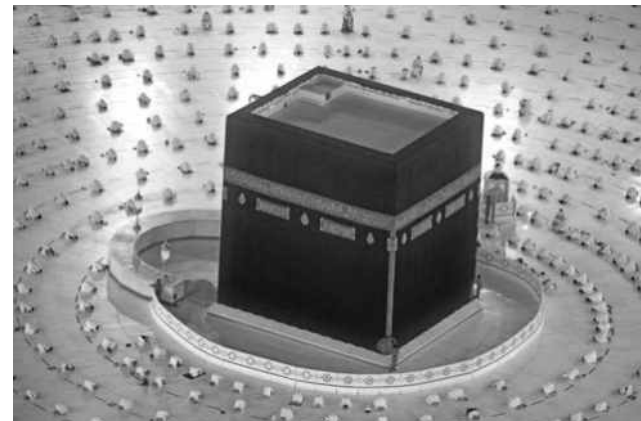
Last year, the coronavirus upended the 68-year-old Egyptian's routine of going to the mosque to perform those prayers, traditional during Islam's holiest month. The pandemic had disrupted Islamic worship the world over, including in Egypt where mosques were closed to worshippers last Ramadan.

"I have been going to the mosque for 40 years so it was definitely a very, very, difficult thing," he said. "But our religion orders us to protect one another."

Still, "It's a whole other feeling, and the spirituality in Ramadan is like nothing else."

Egypt has since allowed most mosques to reopen for Friday communal prayers and for this Ramadan it will let them hold taraweeh, also with precautions, including shortening its duration.

Ramadan, which begins Tuesday in Egypt and other countries across the Middle East, comes as much of the world has been hit by an intense new coronavirus wave. For many Muslims



Muslims pray during the first dawn prayers of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, around the Kaaba, the cubic building at the Grand Mosque, as they keep social distancing to help curb the spread of the coronavirus, in the Muslim holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, Tuesday, April 13, 2021. AP

navigating restrictions, that means hopes of a better Ramadan than last year have been dashed with the surge in infection rates though regulations vary in different countries.

A time for fasting, worship and charity, Ramadan is also when people typically congregate for prayers, gather around festive meals to break their daylong fast, throng cafes and exchange visits.

Once again, some countries are imposing new restrictions. But concern is high that the month's communal rituals could stoke a further surge.

"The lack of adherence that happened last Ramadan, hasty lifting of the curfew imposed at the time and

re-opening of places of congregations ... led to grave consequences that lasted for months," said Ahmed Al-Mandhari, the World Health Organization's regional director for the Eastern Mediterranean.

"We have a lot of worries of a repeat of what had happened last Ramadan, especially since Ramadan coincides with another important holiday, which is Easter," he said by email. Orthodox Christians mark Easter on May 2.

In Pakistan, new case numbers grew from fewer than 800 a day at the start of the month last year to more than 6,000 a day a few weeks after Ramadan ended.

WORLD BRIEFS

All schools in Ontario to shut and go to online learning

TORONTO (AP)—All schools in Canada's most populous province will be shut down and move to online learning because of a record number of coronavirus infections fueled by more contagious variants, Ontario's premier announced Monday. Premier Doug Ford said his government is moving to online-only after the April break this week. Schools in Canada's largest city, Toronto, were already shut since last Wednesday. Now it will be provincewide. Toronto and the neighboring Peel region made the decision last week after the province declined to act. Ontario is now seeing more than 4,000 new infections a day in recent days, including 4,401 on Monday, and record intensive care numbers.

Turkey, Libya recommit to contested maritime borders deal

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—The head of Libya's new interim government and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday affirmed their commitment to a controversial 2019 maritime agreement that has angered Greece and Cyprus. Speaking following a meeting in Ankara with Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, Erdogan pledged to support to Libya's unity, its reconstruction and its military. Turkey would also be sending

150,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses and well as manage a pandemic hospital in Tripoli to help the North African country battle its outbreak, Erdogan said. Libya's interim government, which took power last month, is meant to bring together a country that has been torn apart by civil war for nearly a decade. It is also aims to steer through a general election on Dec. 24.

Attack on Iran's Natanz plant muddies US, Iran nuke talks

WASHINGTON (AP)—The attack on Iran's Natanz nuclear facility is casting a major shadow over Tuesday's resumption of indirect talks between the U.S. and Iran over resurrection of the international accord limiting Iran's nuclear program. Neither Iran nor the U.S. say the incident will crater the negotiations. But the attack and the destruction of a significant amount of Iran's uranium enrichment capability add uncertainty to the discussions in Vienna. The attack gives both sides reason to harden their positions, yet each has incentives to keep the talks on track. Iran wants Washington to lift sanctions that have contributed to damaging its economy, including measures not related to its nuclear program. It insists that the sanctions be lifted before it returns to compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement that then-President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of in 2018.

Good Housekeeping

By LAURA WOODS
GOBANKINGRATES.COM

Retirement is on the horizon, and you're thinking about relocating to another city. But before you sell your current house, you might want to consider remodeling parts of your home to increase its value.

1 Garage door replacement

If your garage door is notably banged up or glaringly outdated, consider having a new one installed as part of your home improvement initiative. Doing so can seriously increase the curb appeal of your residence, which will draw more buyers in.

A garage door replacement is a relatively inexpensive home renovation, with the national average price at just \$3,470. Expect it to boost your resale value by approximately \$3,411, which means you'll recoup 98 percent of the cost.

2 Install manufactured stone veneer

If your home looks good from the outside, buyers will want to see the inside. Make the front exterior of your home the most luxurious on the block by having manufactured stone veneer installed on top of your existing siding.

Unlike many home improvement projects, you can expect to recoup around 97.1 percent of your costs. Budget the national average rate of \$8,221 for this upgrade, and expect it to increase your home's resale value by an estimated \$7,986.

3 Deck addition

Buyers value a home with a nice outdoor space. Even if your local area only has a few warm months per year, chances are that whoever buys your home wants a deck to enjoy the pleasant weather while it lasts.

If your home doesn't have one, think about adding a new deck to your home renovation list. The national average cost of a wooden deck addition is \$10,950, but you should recover roughly \$9,065, which is an 82.8 percent return on investment. If you opt for a composite deck addition, plan to spend around \$17,668 and increase your resale value by roughly \$11,239, providing a 63.6 return on your investment.

4 Minor kitchen remodel

The kitchen is the most important room in the house in the mind of most buyers, according to real estate site Zillow. Consequently, if you can't remember the last time yours was upgraded, it should be a priority in your home renovations.

The national average cost of a mid-range minor kitchen remodel is \$21,198. It will add around \$17,193 to your resale value, so you'll recoup approximately 82.8 percent.

Since a kitchen remodel is often the most necessary but not the most lucrative home renovation, Zillow recommends focusing on the most eye-catching areas, including countertops, cabinets, appliances, outlets, backsplash and flooring. In some cases, a coat of paint or a little sandpaper might make a world of difference, so try to salvage what you have before investing in all new upgrades.

5 Siding replacement

The shape of the siding on your home is the very first impression most buyers will have. If it's in poor condition or an outdated color, potential buyers might assume the inside matches the outside and keep on driving without stopping for a tour.

The national average cost of a siding replacement is \$15,072. This home improvement project should add around \$11,554 worth of resale value, which is a 76.7 per-

cent return on investment.

Choosing the right siding colors makes all the difference, so Better Homes and Gardens recommends taking a number of factors into consideration, including the color scheme of your neighborhood and the architecture of your home. The magazine also suggests applying swatches of your favorite paint choices on different sides of your home and evaluating them at different times of day, so you can make an informed decision.

6 Bathroom remodel

If your bathroom has a blue tub or pink tile lining the walls, updating it in a home renovation will increase the resale value of your home. The national average cost of a mid-

range bathroom remodel is \$19,134, and it garners a return on investment of roughly \$13,422, which is 70.1 percent.

Because this home remodeling project is important but not necessarily the most profitable, handle it wisely. Repairing or replacing tile, floors and walls make a bathroom more appealing to buyers, according to home services site Angie's List. It also recommends adding a wow factor, such as a large glass shower enclosure, an attractive tile detail or a striking vanity.

7 Roof replacement

Most buyers aren't keen on purchasing a property and immediately having to sink even more cash into it. If your roof is nearing its expiration date, consider replacing it.

The national average cost of a roof replacement is \$20,939, and it adds approximately \$14,320 to your resale value, bringing your return on investment to 68.4 percent. Potential buyers might not immediately notice your home remodeling project, but a new roof could be a deciding factor for those very serious about making an offer.

8 Bathroom addition

Many older homes with multiple bedrooms were only built with one bathroom. While this setup worked fine for your family, modern buyers aren't so keen on having one bathroom for the entire household.

If most homes in the same price range in your local area have multiple bathrooms, you will probably benefit from adding another. The national average cost of a mid-range bathroom addition is \$44,717. This home improvement project will increase the value of your home by an estimated \$26,769, providing a 59.9 percent return on investment.

9 Major kitchen remodel

As noted earlier, the kitchen is a major focal point for buyers. If yours is in such bad shape that a minor kitchen remodel just won't cut it, you might want to spring for a major kitchen overhaul.

This type of home remodeling project would likely necessitate most — if not all — upgrades involved in a mid-range kitchen remodel plus something more involved, such as changing the entire layout of the room to a more functional, open setup.

The national average for a mid-range major kitchen overhaul is \$63,829. Expect to recoup about 59 percent of your investment, as it will add approximately \$37,637 to your resale value.

10 Master suite addition

You've done just fine all these years without a master suite, but this feature is coveted by many modern buyers. If this home renovation makes sense to attract buyers in your local market, consider building out a new master bedroom suite that includes a private bath, walk-in closet and dressing area.

Budget the national average cost of approximately \$123,420 for a mid-range master suite, and expect it to boost your resale value by around \$69,807, representing a 56.6 percent return on your investment.



10
home renovations
to make before
you retire

Life & Style

Will Smith film departs Georgia over voting restrictions

NEW YORK (AP)—Will Smith and director Antoine Fuqua have pulled production of their runaway slave drama “Emancipation” from Georgia over the state’s recently enacted law restricting voting access.

The film is the largest and most high profile Hollywood production to depart the state since Georgia’s Republican-

controlled state Legislature passed a law that introduced stiffer voter identification requirements for absentee balloting, limited drop boxes and gave the State Election Board new powers to intervene in county election offices and to remove and replace local election officials. Opponents have said the law is designed

to reduce the impact of minority voters.

In a joint statement, Smith and Fuqua—who are both producers on the project—said they felt compelled to move the production out of Georgia.

“We cannot in good conscience provide economic support to a government that enacts regressive voting laws

that are designed to restrict voter access,” Smith and Fuqua said. “The new Georgia voting laws are reminiscent of voting impediments that were passed at the end of Reconstruction to prevent many Americans from voting.”

“Emancipation” had been scheduled to begin shooting in June. Apple Studios acquired

the film last year in a deal reportedly worth \$130 million. Based on a true story, the film stars Smith as a slave who flees a Louisiana plantation and joins the Union Army.



Smith

Hollywood’s response to the Georgia law has been closely watched because the state is a major hub of film production and boasts gener-

ous tax incentives. Some filmmakers have said they would boycott, including “Ford v. Ferrari” director James Mangold. But major studios have so far been largely quiet. In 2019, a Georgia anti-abortion law (later declared unconstitutional) prompted studios to threaten to cease production in the state.

Harrison Ford, Brad Pitt join Oscars starry presenting cast

The Oscars are aiming to be more like a movie than a television show and enlisting A-list stars like Harrison Ford, Brad Pitt, Halle Berry and Reese Witherspoon to help hand out statuettes.

They’ll be joined by the likes of Don Cheadle, Renee Zellweger, Regina King, Joaquin Phoenix, Rita Moreno,

Laura Dern, Zendaya, Angela Bassett, Bryan Cranston, Marlee Matlin and last year’s best director winner Bong Joon Ho, the show’s producers said Monday.

“In keeping with our awards-show-as-a-movie approach, we’ve assembled a truly stellar cast of stars,” said producers Jesse Collins, Sta-

cey Sher and Steven Soderbergh in a statement. “There’s so much wattage here, sunglasses may be required.”

After delaying two months due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Oscars are forging ahead with an in-person show at Los Angeles’ Union Station. It’ll be a scaled back affair, with only presenters,

nominees and their guest in attendance, but the producers are working to make it a must-see event amid critically low ratings for other awards shows during the pandemic. More talent will be announced in the coming weeks.

The 93rd Oscars will be broadcast live on ABC on April 25 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

William and Harry remember Prince Philip’s wit, service to UK

LONDON (AP)—Princes William and Harry paid tribute Monday to their grandfather, Prince Philip, remembering his wit, sense of duty and barbecue skills.

The brothers issued separate statements amid a family rift that led to Harry’s decision to step away from royal duties last year, and some have speculated that their grandfather’s funeral may offer an opportunity for them to talk over their differences. Philip, who had been married to Queen Elizabeth II for more than seven decades, died last week at 99.

William, who is second in line to the throne, honored Philip’s lifetime of service to the queen and the United Kingdom as he remembered his grandfather’s “mischievous sense of humor.”

“My grandfather was an extraordinary man and part of an extraordinary generation,” said the 38-year-old William. “Catherine and I will continue to do what he would

have wanted and will support The Queen in the years ahead. I will miss my Grandpa, but I know he would want us to get on with the job.”

Harry, who stepped away from royal duties last year and now lives in California, has arrived in the U.K. to attend Philip’s funeral service, which will take place Saturday at Windsor Castle, west of London. His wife, Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, is pregnant and was advised by her doctor not to make the long journey.

Harry’s statement described Philip as a man who was “authentically himself.”

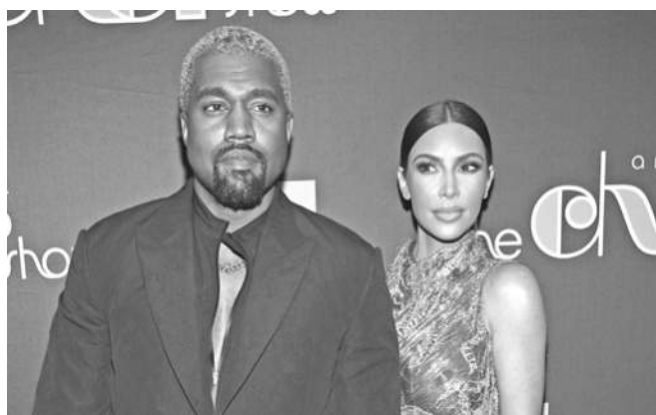
“He will be remembered as the longest reigning consort to the Monarch, a decorated serviceman, a Prince and a Duke,” said the 36-year-old Harry. “But to me, like many of you who have lost a loved one or grandparent over the pain of this past year, he was my grandpa: master of the barbecue, legend of banter, and cheeky right ‘til the end.”

Kanye agrees with Kim on joint custody in divorce response

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kanye West agrees with Kim Kardashian West that they should have joint custody of their four children and neither of them need spousal support, according to new divorce documents.

West’s attorneys filed his response Friday in Los Angeles Superior Court to Kardashian West’s divorce filing seven weeks earlier, which began the process of ending their 6 1/2-year marriage.

West’s filing was virtually identical to Kardashian West’s original petition, agreeing that the marriage should end over irreconcilable differences, and that the two should share custody of their children: North, age 7,



Kanye West and Kim Kardashian West attend “The Cher Show” Broadway musical opening night on Dec. 3, 2018, in New York.

Saint, age 5, Chicago, age 3, and Psalm, who turns 2 next month.

And like Kardashian West’s

filing, West’s asks that the court’s right to award spousal support to either person be terminated.

According to Kardashian West’s Feb. 19 petition, the two have a pre-nuptial agreement, and under it they kept their property separate throughout their marriage.

The divorce filings bring an impending end to one of the most followed celebrity unions in recent decades, between the 40-year-old reality TV superstar Kardashian West, and the 43-year-old rap and fashion mogul West.

It was the first marriage for West and the third for Kardashian West, who has not asked the court to change her name back to just Kardashian, though she may still do so during the divorce process.

Mother-daughter fight leads to threats of leaving home

DEAR ABBY: My best friend (since we were babies) and I are having a disagreement. She had two kids when she was 16 and 17 who are now in their early 20s. One of them still lives rent-free under her roof.

My friend struggled her whole life but got a college degree, bought a house five years ago and owns two cars all on her own. She has recently started having friends over on the weekends and drinking. While I don’t do that, I understand she had kids early and wants to have a little fun now in her 40s. She’s very responsible and pays her bills.

The other day I walked in and her daughter started screaming at me that I need to tell her mom to stop and saying that she was moving out. I was shocked that she spoke to me that way.

My friend started crying because she loves her daughter and doesn’t want her to move. I say, let her go. She needs to learn to respect her elders, and she’ll soon realize living on her own isn’t easy. My friend didn’t agree and hasn’t said anything to her daughter about how she spoke to both of us. I want to help my friend because she comes to me for advice, but I don’t know how.

DISAPPROVING FRIEND

DEAR FRIEND: People often say things in the heat of anger. You walked in on a fight between your friend and her daughter. You have no idea what started it, and you shouldn’t have inserted yourself. When you tried to “help,” your input was rejected.

You have already said enough. Now, resist the impulse to stir the pot and step back so your friend can handle this herself.

DEAR ABBY: I come from a family with incest and physical and psychological abuse. I need to talk with my little sister about it. How do I get through it without breaking down before I can help her? My little brother died by suicide six months ago. I have been having nightmares over it. How do I go about getting through to her about it all?

BAD HISTORY IN IDAHO

DEAR BAD HISTORY: Before attempting to do that, it’s important that you talk with a licensed therapist about what happened to you in that unhealthy environment. Once that is done, ask if you can bring your little sister to some sessions.

It is tragic that your brother was so damaged by the abuse he received that he could not go on, and I respect you for wanting to prevent something similar from happening to your sister. Groups such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (afsp.org) offer counseling referrals after a family member takes his own life. You may be able to find a qualified referral there.

DEAR ABBY: I usually send special occasion flowers to my wife at work. I was wondering if it could make some co-workers who do not receive flowers from their partner or hus-

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



band feel neglected, and worse, cause friction between them and my wife. If you feel this could be a potential problem, I can have the flowers delivered to our home.

EXCLUDED IN FLORIDA

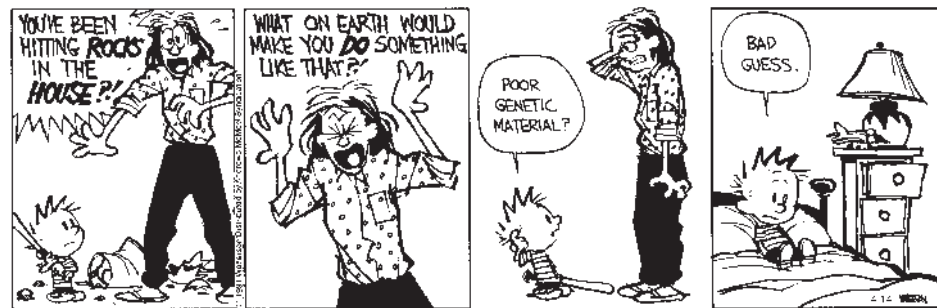
DEAR EXCLUDED: If receiving flowers at her job has caused any tension in the past, you probably would have heard about it. However, you should ask your wife what she would prefer because she may enjoy the public gesture of husbandly love.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

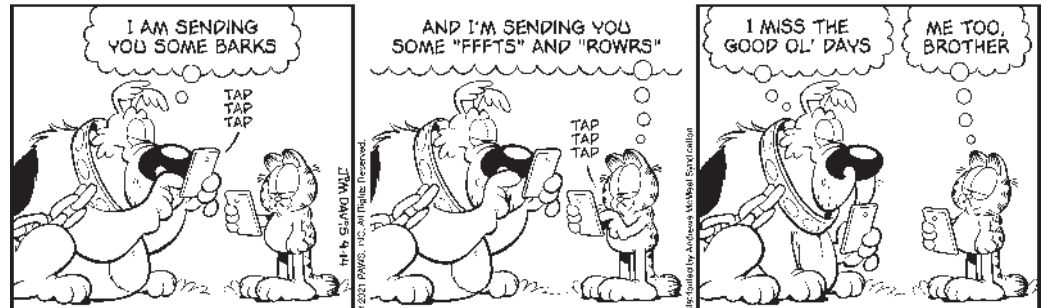
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Theater box
5 Little rascal
8 First victim
12 Norwegian saint
13 Grazing land
14 — Ridge (race-horse)
15 Stravinsky ballet, with "The"
17 Arduous journey
18 Port city of Libya
19 Interfere
21 Sault — Marie
22 In — (shortly)
23 Cato's 1200
26 Aunt, in Acapulco
28 Rascal
31 Saudi native
33 Quarter-back Brady
35 Gymnast Korbut
36 Fizzy drinks

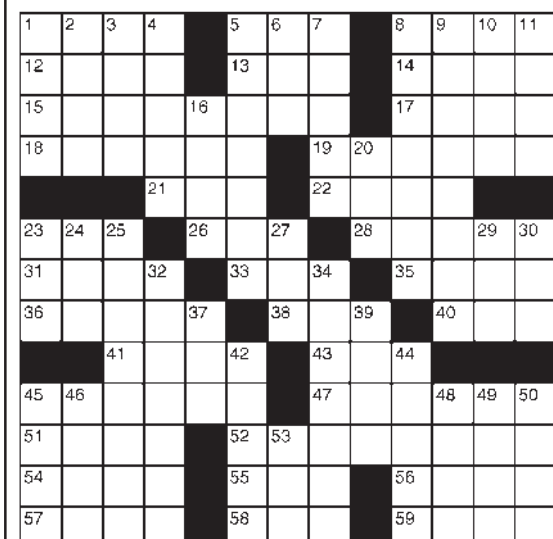
DOWN

1 Barn area
2 Hodge-podge
3 Attire
4 Civil rights leader
5 "Very nice!"
6 Sea, to Henri
7 "Top Chef" host
8 Chrysler Building's style
9 Avian sound
10 Daring
11 Michigan, e.g.
16 Cigar remnant
20 Twisty letter
23 Apple product
24 — Magnon
25 Auditor's hope
27 Fine, at NASA
29 Brit. sports cars
30 Writer's block?
32 Showy trinkets
34 Wondrous event
37 NBC sketch show
39 Like a dungeon
42 Skewered entree
44 High-pitched flutes
45 Island near Java
46 Yemen neighbor
48 Actress Sorvino
49 Asia's — Sea
50 Riga resident
53 Shock partner

Solution time: 23 mins.

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S	N	I	T	M	T	A	Z	C	S	T

Yesterday's answer 4-14



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Abigail Breslin, 25; Sarah Michelle Gellar, 44; Adrien Brody, 48; Brad Garrett, 61.

Happy Birthday: Use your imagination, and you'll figure out a way to make the most out of any situation you face this year. The deeper you dig, the more you will discover that will help you get ahead. Get ready to let go of the past and head into the future with optimism and a desire to be successful. Your numbers are 5, 12, 19, 24, 29, 34, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pace yourself, and you will accomplish all you set out to do. Gravitate toward people who are willing to give back as much as they take. Strive for equality in relationships, and success and happiness will be yours. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Extravagant behavior will weigh you down and hold you back. Moderation mixed with discipline and hard work will be your ticket to success. Walk away from temptation, and remain focused on your long-term objective. Avoid situations that put you in harm's way. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Work quietly on your own until you are satisfied with the results you get. Presenting a well-prepared plan will encourage interest, assistance and success. Don't lose sight of your goals to help someone who takes advantage of your skills. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can reach out and get help, or you can figure it out yourself. The latter will be significantly more satisfying and the rewards yours to

enjoy. Don't give in to someone enticing you to indulge in something you shouldn't. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Let your charm, leadership ability and skills help you build your future. You can advance if you keep your emotions out of the equation and you put your intelligence to work for you. A money-making opportunity is apparent. Romance is encouraged. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Information you gather will change the way you do things. A chance to try something new will push you in a new direction. Stay calm, regardless of what others do or say. Follow your gut feeling, and you will succeed. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put your time and effort into personal growth, fitness and expanding your skills and talents. Use charm to bypass anyone who tries to stand in your way or take over. Learn as you go, defend your principles and live life your way. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A change of plans will upset you. Initiate your journey and continue down the path that beckons you, regardless of what others decide to do. Someone you least expect will stand in your corner and encourage you to proceed. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Reach out to like-minded individuals and start making plans that encourage safe socializing, fitness and self-improvement. Jealousy and possessiveness are apparent. Don't let anyone interfere in your life. You are the one responsible for your happiness. Do your own thing. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home. Set up a place where you can relax and develop something you want to pursue. Distance yourself from those who don't play by the rules or use inappropriate measures to dominate your time. ****



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a deep breath and put things in perspective. Spend more time on self-improvement and less worrying about what others think. Use the experience you have to bypass making the same mistake twice. Choose peace and love over discord. **



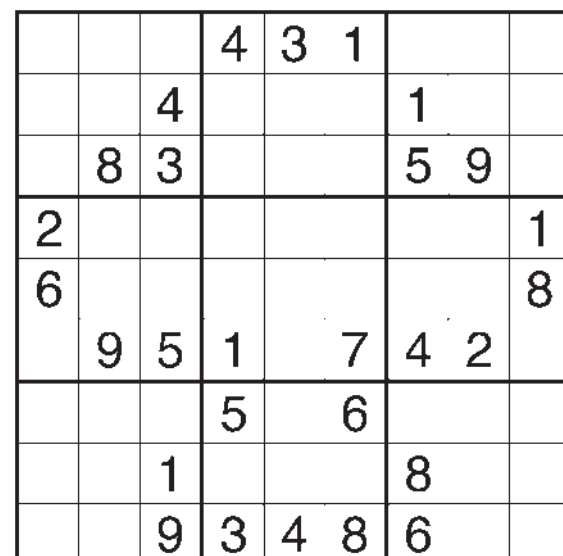
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Consider what you enjoy doing, and find a way to incorporate it into your everyday routine. Refuse to let anyone persuade you into doing something you find taxing and unrewarding. Put your energy into something that offers satisfaction and earning potential. ****

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, protective and resourceful. You are convincing and possessive. ☹: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☹☹: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☹☹☹: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☹☹☹☹: Aim high; start new projects. ☹☹☹☹☹: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ***

4/14

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	3	6	1	9	5	4	8	7
8	4	9	7	2	6	1	3	5
5	1	7	3	8	4	6	2	9
3	6	5	8	1	2	7	9	4
1	7	2	4	3	9	8	5	6
9	8	4	6	5	7	2	1	3
4	5	8	9	7	1	3	6	2
6	9	3	2	4	8	5	7	1
7	2	1	5	6	3	9	4	8

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CHATEAU DE VERSAILLES, FRANCE

Solution: 6 letters

B M B M A N S A R D D L R O W
D O A A E G A T I R E H L A H
V R S S S A L G P C A L T A R
E S A Q S I O A R L O E M E W
R Y G I U I N E O O R U B A C
S E N I L E V Y Y C V M R O R
A N H A L L T E S K A P E S T I Y
I M A E I D I S L H A P T S I Y
L I D S L E E B C O E R R O O
L H E C H A N D E L I E R C F
E C L D N L E O P E G A T S P
S E B D A B A M R N O T R E A
T E R R A C E R A H T Y T N R
P E A C E T A R U S T I C U I
S Y M B O L O F L A T O N A S

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4/14

Altar, André, Ashlar, Basin, Bedchamber, Billiard, Bosquets, Chandelier, Chimneys, Clock, Cost, Court, Facade, Foyer, Gilded, Groves, Hall, Heritage, Latona, Mansard, Marble, Massive, Notre, Opera, Orange, Paneled, Paris, Peace, Petit, Royal, Rustic, Salon, Silver, Stage, Symbol, Temple, Terrace, Throne, Treaty, UNESCO, Versailles, Wall, Water, World, Yvelines

Yesterday's Answer: Economist

Treasures 24 through 41 can be purchased online at
www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Schwarber returns as Washington beats St. Louis, 5-2



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Kyle Schwarber

doubled in a run in his delayed Washington debut. Andrew Stevenson had a pinch-hit homer and the Nationals beat the St. Louis Cardinals 5-2 on Monday night.

Schwarber, Josh Bell and Josh Harrison were in the starting lineup after being sidelined for Washington's first six games by a coronavirus outbreak that prompted the postponement of the team's season-opening series and left the club short-handed. The Nats ended a five-game skid, while the Cardinals have lost three straight.

Stevenson hit his first homer of the season into St. Louis' bullpen in right field to lead off the seventh, putting Washington ahead 4-2.

Kyle Finnegan (1-0) pitched 1 1/3 innings for the win. Brad Hand got three outs for his first save.

Yadier Molina homered for St. Louis. John Gant (0-1) allowed three runs in five-plus innings.

Brewers 6, Cubs 3

In Milwaukee, pinch-hitter Luis Urias drove in three runs with a go-ahead double, part of a six-run sixth inning for the Brewers.

Freddy Peralta (2-0) struck out 10 over six innings of two-hit ball for the victory. Josh Hader got two outs for his first save of the season.

Milwaukee has won five of six, while Chicago lost for the fifth time in six games.

Kris Bryant homered for the Cubs in the fourth, and Javier Báez added a two-run double in the ninth. Adbert Alzolay (0-2) allowed three runs in 5 1/3 innings.

The Cubs announced before the game that bullpen coach Chris Young had tested positive for COVID-19. First base coach Craig Driver was already away from the team following his positive test.

Relievers Brandon Workman, Jason Adam and Dan Winkler were placed on the COVID-19-related injured list. There was no word on whether their designation was the result of a positive test or contact tracing.

Tigers 6, Astros 2

In Houston, Casey Mize tossed seven scoreless innings for his first career win and fellow rookie Akil Baddoo homered again, leading Detroit to the victory in manager A.J. Hinch's first trip to Houston since he was fired for the team's sign-stealing scheme.

Renato Núñez and Grayson Greiner also homered as the Tigers jumped on Zack Greinke (1-1) for six runs to snap a four-game skid.

Hinch received a standing

ovation when he was introduced before the game and the team played a tribute video to him on the big screen. As the last frame of the video displayed the words: "Thank you A.J.," he stepped onto the field and tipped his cap to the crowd, which roared with approval.

Mize (1-0), the top overall pick in the 2018 amateur draft, permitted four hits, struck out five and walked two.

Angels 10, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Mo., Shohei Ohtani had three hits and three RBIs for the Angels, and Mike Trout hit a two-run homer.

Ohtani hit a two-run double off Scott Barlow in the seventh for a 6-3 lead. The ball came off the bat at 119 mph, the fifth-hardest-hit ball since 2015, according to Statcast.

Ohtani added an RBI double against Jake Newberry in the ninth.

Alex Cobb (1-0) struck out 10 in 5 2/3 innings for Los Angeles. He allowed three runs and four hits.

Kansas City right-hander Brady Singer (0-2) permitted four runs — one earned — and seven hits in five innings.

Rays 1, Rangers 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Tyler Glasnow struck out a career-high 14 in 7 2/3 innings and Willy Adames homered in the seventh, lifting Tampa Bay to the victory.

Glasnow (1-0) allowed two hits and walked one. Diego Castillo worked the ninth for his third save. Adames homered off Taylor Hearn (0-1)



Washington Nationals' Kyle Schwarber, right, is tagged out at home by St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina to end the top of the eighth inning of a baseball game Monday, April 12, 2021, in St. Louis.

with two outs in the seventh.

Glasnow improved to 6-0 over his last 11 regular-season games, and the AL champions have gone 10-1 in the those games.

Texas was shut out for the third time in four games.

Padres 6, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Yu Darvish pitched seven dominant innings, Wil Myers drove in five runs and San Diego earned its fourth straight win.

Darvish (1-0) permitted one run and three hits in a crisp performance. Myers hit a two-run homer off Luis Oviedo (0-1) in the sixth, putting San Diego in front to stay.

Phillip Evans had an RBI double for the Pirates and Trevor Cahill worked five effective innings but Pittsburgh's modest two-game winning streak ended.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1

In Dunedin, Fla., Kyle Higashioka homered twice to support Gerrit Cole, leading the Yankees to the win.

Cole (2-0) allowed one run and three hits in six innings. He struck out eight and walked one.

Aroldis Chapman worked the ninth for his first save, finishing a five-hitter.

Robbie Ray (0-1) didn't allow a hit before Rougned Odor singled with one out in the fifth and Higashioka followed with a 416-foot opposite-field shot to right-center for a 2-1 lead.

Higashioka made it 3-1 in the eighth on a 427-foot solo shot to left off Ryan Borucki.

Marlins 5, Braves 3, 10 innings

In Atlanta, Garrett Cooper hit a tiebreaking single in the 10th inning and finished with three RBIs, leading Miami to the road win.

Brian Anderson tacked on an RBI double in the 10th. Yimi García (1-1) got four outs for the win.

The teams were facing each other for the first time since Atlanta swept Miami in their NL Division Series last year.

Adam Duvall homered for the Marlins.

Ozzie Albies drove in two runs for Atlanta, and Ronald Acuña Jr. tripled and scored two runs. Jacob Webb (0-1) got the loss.

White Sox 4, Indians 3

In Chicago, first baseman Yu Chang hit Yasmani Grandal with a throw trying to force him at second base as Nick Madrigal raced home with the winning run for the White Sox in the ninth inning.

Adam Eaton homered in his second straight game and rookie Yermín Mercedes got

the winning rally started with one out in the ninth when he singled to shortstop against Emmanuel Clase (1-1).

Grandal walked to put runners on first and second before Nick Williams sent a grounder toward Chang. His throw trying to get Grandal at second hit the runner in the head. The ball ricocheted toward the left side of the infield, and Madrigal—running for Mercedes—sped home.

Codi Heuer (1-0) struck out a career-high four over 2 1/3 innings, and Chicago stopped Cleveland's four-game win streak.

Reds 3, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Joey Votto splashed a home run into McCovey Cove, Jesse Winker hit a two-run homer, and the Reds beat the Giants.

Winker's first home run of the year marked the first hit off Aaron Sanchez (0-1) in the third and provided Wade Miley (2-0) with some early support.

Cincinnati bounced back after losing two straight at Arizona following a six-game winning streak.

Miley allowed two hits in five innings. Tejay Antone then struck out five over 3 2/3 hitless innings before Lucas Sims recorded the final out for his first career save in Cincinnati's first shutout of the season. The Giants were shut out for the second time.

San Francisco had won four in a row.

Athletics 9, Diamondbacks 5

In Phoenix, Matt Chapman homered among his three hits, Jed Lowrie added two hits and three RBIs, and Oakland roughed up Arizona starter Madison Bumgarner.

Lowrie doubled home two runs in the third inning and singled and scored in a three-run fifth capped by Chapman's second homer of the season for a 6-2 lead.

Bumgarner (0-2) gave up six runs, seven hits and three walks in 4 2/3 innings. He has allowed 22 hits and 12 walks in 13 2/3 innings this year, his latest struggles since signing an \$85 million, five-year contract with the Diamondbacks before last season.

Oakland has won four of five after starting 0-6. Chris Bassitt (1-2) yielded two hits and two runs in five innings.

Arizona third baseman Eduardo Escobar was hitless, ending his home run streak at four games.

Patriots receiver Julian Edelman announces retirement



BOSTON (AP)—For

more than a decade Julian Edelman lived the ultimate NFL underdog story, going from undersized college quarterback to a favorite option of Tom Brady on three Patriots' Super Bowl-winning teams.

He says he'll leave the league after giving everything he had to the sport.

Citing a knee injury that cut his 2020 season short after just six games, Edelman announced Monday that he is retiring from the NFL after 11 seasons.

"Nothing in my career has ever come easy. And no surprise, this isn't going to come easy either," Edelman said fighting back tears in a video posted to Twitter. "I've always said I'm going to go until the wheels come off. And they finally have fallen off."

Earlier in the day, the Patriots terminated the contract of the Super Bowl 53 MVP after the receiver failed a physical.

It brings an abrupt end to the 11-year New England tenure of the 34-year-old, whose fingertip catch helped complete the Patriots' historic Super Bowl 51 comeback win over the Atlanta Falcons.

"By any measure of what constitutes an elite NFL career—wins, championships, production—Julian has it all," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said in a statement. "Few players can match Julian's achievements, period, but considering his professional trajectory and longevity, the group is even more select. It is historic. This is a tribute to his legendary competitiveness, mental and physical toughness and will to excel."

Team owner Robert Kraft called Edelman "one of the great success stories in our franchise's history."

He appeared in just six games last season before going on injured reserve following a surgical procedure on his knee. He also missed the entire 2017 season after tear-

ing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee.

Edelman was entering the final season of a two-year, \$15.5 million contract. He was facing an uphill climb to make the roster in 2021 following the Patriots' efforts to remake the receiving group after their struggles last season. This offseason the Patriots have already added receivers Kendrick Bourne and Nelson Agholor in free agency.

A seventh-round pick in the 2009 draft out of Kent State, Edelman retires ranked second in team history with 620 receptions, fourth in receiving yards 6,822 and ninth with 36 receiving touchdowns.

He also had 58 rushing attempts for 413 yards, the most rushing attempts and rushing yards by a wide receiver in Patriots history. His 9,869 all-purpose yards are fourth in team history.

Edelman will be most remembered for what he did during the postseason, though, amassing 118 catches

for 1,422 yards and seven touchdowns.

"On the biggest stage and in the biggest moments, you always came through," Brady said in a tweet. "You never lost that chip on your shoulder and you never let anyone define you as a person or player. I'm proud of you Jules. Love you."

He reached his pinnacle in Super Bowl 53 when he hauled in 10 receptions for 141 yards in helping lift the Patriots to a 13-3 victory over the Los Angeles Rams.

That postseason Edelman also tied Dallas' Michael Irvin for the second-most 100-yard receiving games in the postseason with six, just two behind Jerry Rice's NFL record.

"Day in and day out, Julian was always the same: all out," Belichick said. "Then, in the biggest games and moments, with championships at stake, he reached even greater heights and delivered some of his best, most thrilling performances."

Curry scores 53 as Warriors beat Nuggets, 116-107



SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Stephen Curry scored 53 points to pass Wilt Chamberlain for the most in Warriors franchise history as Golden State beat the Denver Nuggets 116-107 on Monday night.

Draymond Green had 18 points, seven rebounds, and seven assists, Andrewiggins scored 17 points and Kent Bazemore added 14 for the Warriors.

Nikola Jokić led the Nuggets with 27 points, 12 rebounds, and eight assists. Michael Porter Jr. added 24 points and nine rebounds.

Jamal Murray scored 17 points before injuring his left knee in the final minute of the game. He was helped off the court and did not return. Nuggets coach Michael Malone said Murray would get an MRI to determine the severity of the injury.

"Some of the coaches said when they watched the replay, it looked like he hyperextended it," Malone noted. "It's just an awful feeling. Keep Jamal in your thoughts and prayers and hopefully, we'll get some good news."

Curry scored 21 points in the first quarter, giving him 17,786 in his career. That passed Chamberlain's 17,783 with the franchise, a record he'd held since 1964.

"To be anywhere near him in any record book or now be on top, it's surreal and it's wild," Curry said. "If you grow up in the game of basketball and you hear his name, you know it's something extremely special, no matter what it is."

Curry shot 14 of 24 from the field, making 10 of 18 3-pointers. The two-time league MVP added six rebounds and four assists in 35 minutes. It marked his seventh straight game scoring at least 30 points, the longest streak by a Warrior since Rick Barry during the 1966-67 season.

"You can feel it when he's really got it going on and we could feel it pretty early tonight," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "It was kind of surprising to see him break that record in the first quarter. We all figured he'd find a way to get 19 points tonight, but maybe not in the first quarter."

Denver took a 61-56 lead into halftime, but Golden State took over in the third quarter, outscoring the Nuggets 43-22 for a 99-83 lead.

Denver outscored Golden State 54-36 in the paint, but the Warriors made 18 three-pointers to the Nuggets' eight.

"That was a big game for us," Kerr said. "We have a chance to get on a little run. It was important for us to get a



win, especially against a really good team."

Denver has now lost two in a row, following an eight-game winning streak.

Knicks 111, Lakers 96

In New York, same city, whole different kind of game for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Two nights after dominating the Nets, the defending champions got a look at how much better the New York Knicks are defensively.

Julius Randle had 34 points and 10 rebounds against his former team and the Knicks beat the Lakers 111-96 on Monday night for their third straight victory.

"Really poor passing, some bad decisions and some it you have to credit the defense. But as good as we were offensively two nights ago, we were just as bad tonight," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said.

Coming off tense finishes against Memphis and Toronto, the Knicks led comfortably for much of the fourth quarter and moved back above .500 at 28-27, bouncing back nicely after narrow losses to Brooklyn and Boston last week.

"There's ups and downs in a season and you have to keep going. If you get knocked down, dust yourself off, get up and come back with more fight and grit. That's what this team has," Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau said. "It has a togetherness and a belief that we can get it done."

Elfrid Payton scored 20 points and Derrick Rose added 14 off the bench for the Knicks, who were sparked by Randle's 13 points in the first quarter had plenty of energy on the second night of back-to-back games.

Pelicans 117, Kings 110

In New Orleans, Brandon In-

gram scored 34 points, Zion Williamson added 30 and the New Orleans Pelicans held off a furious Sacramento Kings comeback bid for a 117-110 victory on Monday night.

Steven Adams had 16 rebounds and Eric Bledsoe scored 13 points for the Pelicans, who had their 26-point, second-quarter lead trimmed to four in the final minute.

De'Aaron Fox, who scored 43 points for the Kings, attempted a 3 that could have made it a one-point game with 14 seconds left. But the shot missed and Wes Iwundu rebounded for New Orleans to help secure the victory, which also dropped the Kings to their seventh straight loss.

"Everybody gets all excited about the comebacks, and I get that," Pelicans coach Stan Van Gundy said of the Kings' second-half rally. "They did a great job. But you know what? We get a win and they get a loss."

What had looked like a laugh-er became a tense affair after Fox drained a 19-footer to make it 91-84 with 8:33 still remaining.

Suns 126, Rockets 120

In Phoenix, Jae Crowder scored 26 points, Devin Booker added 24 and the Phoenix Suns tied an NBA record with 18 3-pointers in the first half on the way to a 126-120 victory over the Houston Rockets on Monday night.

The long balls came in bunches for both teams in this contest, which at times resembled a game of H-O-R-S-E. The Suns finished with a franchise-record 25 3-pointers and the Rockets added 17. The combined total of 42 3s was one shy of an NBA record.

"The hoop did feel a little bigger tonight," Crowder said with a grin.

The Suns jumped out to an 81-58 lead by halftime

after making 18 of 24 (75%) 3s. Crowder was causing a big chunk of the damage, scoring all of his points in the first half while making 8 of 9 from behind the arc as a socially distanced crowd got louder with each shot.

"It was fun to watch for sure," Suns guard Jevon Carter said. "Love to see my man Jae out there hoopin.'"

Crowder had previously never made more than six 3-pointers in a game. The Suns matched the record set by the Utah Jazz, who hit 18 3s in the first half earlier this season in a game against Orlando.

Wizards 125, Jazz 121

In Salt Lake City, Bradley Beal scored 34 points to help the Washington Wizards beat Utah 125-121 on Monday night, ending a franchise-record, 24-game home winning streak for the Jazz.

Russell Westbrook had 25 points, 14 rebounds and 14 assists for the Wizards. Daniel Gafford matched his season high with 15 points. The Wizards swept the season series after shooting 52% from the field and 47% from 3-point range.

"We definitely had our hands full, but I love how we accepted all the challenges and made it tough for them," Beal said.

Donovan Mitchell scored 42 points and Bojan Bogdanovic added a season-high 33 for Utah. Joe Ingles chipped in 18 but the Jazz also had a two-game winning streak snapped while losing at home for the first time in 2021.

"They were just too comfortable in the beginning," Jazz center Rudy Gobert said. "When you have that kind of game, everyone is having fun. Everyone on the court for them had a little moment."

The Jazz rallied late and cut a 19-point deficit to 121-119 on a driving layup from Mitchell

with 12.3 seconds left.

Beal hit a pair of free throws with 11.5 seconds remaining after missing a pair of few seconds earlier. Bogdanovic missed a corner 3-pointer on the other end and then Westbrook added two more free throws to secure the win.

76ers 113, Mavericks 95

In Dallas, Joel Embiid scored 36 points and the Philadelphia 76ers wrapped up a long stretch of mostly road games with a 113-95 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Monday night.

Embiid made all six of his free throws in the first four-plus minutes and was 14 of 15 from the line as the 76ers finished 8-4 while playing 10 of 12 games on the road going into their final regular-season meeting with Brooklyn.

Philadelphia took a half-game lead atop the Eastern Conference over the Nets, whose game at Minnesota was called off because of the shooting death of a Black man by police in the Minneapolis area.

"Honestly until walking into this interview I didn't know we played Brooklyn next," coach Doc Rivers said. "I'll close the book on Dallas when we get on the plane and then start watching whoever the next opponent is. It'll be a fun game for both teams."

Luka Doncic scored 32 points but the young Dallas star didn't have enough help with European sidekick Kristaps Porzingis sitting out the second night of a back-to-back four days after playing in one for the first time in two months.

Spurs 120, Magic 97

In Orlando, Fla., DeMar DeRozan scored 19 points in just three quarters of work, Dejounte Murray added 17 and the San Antonio Spurs routed the slumping Orlando Magic

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) hugs head coach Steve Kerr after the Warriors defeated the Denver Nuggets in an NBA basketball game in San Francisco, Monday, April 12, 2021.

120-97 on Monday night.

San Antonio was playing a night after winning in Dallas on a last-second shot by DeRozan, and it showed no signs of fatigue in cruising to the easy win. The Spurs' victories Sunday and Monday gave them their first consecutive wins since a three-game streak from March 15-19.

"We just wanted to come in and capitalize on our win from (Sunday) and take a different approach to playing a back-to-back by being more aggressive and really take it at them," said Spurs center Drew Eubanks, who had 10 points and 10 rebounds. "We need more wins to end the season, so we just wanted to be aggressive and leave it all out there."

Prior to tipoff, the teams, coaching staffs and refereeing crew came together and formed a circle at mid-court with their arms interlocked and their heads bowed to show their displeasure over the fatal shooting of a Black man, Daunte Wright, by police during a traffic stop in a Minneapolis suburb. Spurs coach Gregg Popovich and Magic coach Steve Clifford stood side by side with their arms interlocked during the anthem.

Grizzlies 101, Bulls 90

In Memphis, Tenn., Jonas Valanciunas had 26 points and 14 rebounds, leading a fourth-quarter burst that carried the Memphis Grizzlies to a 101-90 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Monday night.

Valanciunas, who had 32 points and 22 rebounds a night earlier in a loss to the Indiana Pacers, scored 10 in the fourth as Memphis used an 18-6 run to break open a close game.

"Jonas is Jonas, man," said second-year guard Ja Morant. "He's a top player for us. He commands the paint. Protects the paint. A walking double-double."

Valanciunas' double-double was his 15th in a row, setting a franchise record.

"It's not an individual sport," Valanciunas said. "I would not be doing it without my teammates, first of all. Second thing, I'm playing with a high energy. I'm putting a lot of work in trying to go for every rebound. Trying to go for every putback. Stuff like that. That pays off."

Dillon Brooks finished with 17 points and Grayson Allen added 14. Morant had 13 points and 10 assists.

'Over 800 athletes expected for Mini Games'

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With the inclusion of tennis, weightlifting, and va'a to the sports program of the 2022 Pacific Mini Games, the CNMI can expect to host over 800 athletes for the quadrennial event, according to Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee chair Marco Peter.

"The addition of the three sports to the 2022 Mini Games is a testament of the commitment between the Pacific Games Council and the CNMI to make it a successful event.

The addition of the three sports boosts the number of athletes to over 800," he said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Peter also hinted that the Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee picking seven outdoor sports for next year's Mini Games came as no accident.

"Seven of the games will be competing outdoors, as these events were strategically chosen to minimize what would have been a required investment in infrastructure built or renovations. As I experienced the Pacific Games in Western Samoa in 2019

(which is on a larger scale), I believe that we have the resources available to execute a successful hosting in 2022. The CNMI and the 2022 Games Organizing Committee thanks CEO Andrew Minogue and the Pacific Games Council for their continued partnership and guidance as we prepare for the upcoming games," he added.

The outdoor sports slated for the 11th staging of the Mini Games are athletics,



Peter

baseball, beach volleyball, golf, triathlon, tennis, and va'a, leaving weightlifting and badminton as the only indoor sports.

Meanwhile, the Pacific Games Council has pledged to fund 12 athlete per diems (\$450 each) for each of the 24 participating nations, an unprecedented support program worth \$130,000.

Pacific Mini Games 2022 chief executive officer Ben Babauta is also enthusiastic with the CNMI's hosting of

the quadrennial event following the addition of the three sports.

"We're excited for the expansion of events for the Pacific Mini Games 2022 as it will allow a broader range of athletes to participate. It's especially fitting to include outrigger canoe as part of our Pacific Island heritage," he said. "We are also very grateful to the Pacific Games Council for their pledged financial support toward athlete per diems, and we know many countries will also welcome this assistance in sending athletes to

the Mini Games."

The Northern Marianas has pledged \$4 million to host the Mini Games, a multi-sport event governed by the Pacific Games Council as a scaled-down version of the Pacific Games, held every alternating four years.

Fundraising for cash and in-kind support will also be conducted. Additional events may be added to the Mini Games by the Pacific Games Council.

For more information, contact the 2022 Pacific Mini Games Organizing Committee at marianassports@gmail.com.

ROLLERS

From Page 20

Estolas ably supported him with 7 markers each. Keahie and Justin Camacho shared team-high honors for the runner-up Ol'Aces team with 8 points apiece.

Coach Mike Mercado said winning the U14 championship of the 2021 Spring Madness League was a collective effort from both players and the club's coaches.

"We treat them like our sons and humble them to become not only great basketball players but positive citizens of our community as well. Coach Joe Diaz and I formed this U14 team two years ago. We witnessed and trained these kids and continually to do so now with the help of coach Dexter Tenorio and coach Dave Apatang," he said.

He said it also helps that older Rollers players serve as role models for his U14 players. "Our players also get awesome mentoring from our older Rollers players like Chioni Dela Cruz, Ervin Villarin, and Leo Najara, just to name a few. These 'older brothers' always make sure to give and

spend some extra time to train our U14 players."

In the awarding ceremony immediately following the U14 title match, Lady Rollers' Shanesse Aldan won the Regular Season MVP award after being named Scoring Champ (40) and Queen of Steals (14). Rollers Black's J.P. Pineda was King of Assists (9), Ol'Aces' Justin Camacho was King of Rebounds (29), while his teammate Keahie Camacho was King of Blocks (5).

Earlier in the day, the U17 Rollers Black throttled the Sonics in their championship game, while on Saturday the U11 Rollers Black blasted sister team Rollers White in their own finale. Results of the U17 game in the 2021 Spring Madness League between Rollers Black and Ol'Aces will be reported in tomorrow's issue.

Rollers Black 38—Lariel 9, Lucero 7, Pineda 7, Estolas 7, Mercado 5, Navarro 3.

Ol'Aces 29—K. Camacho 8, J. Camacho 8, Imperial 4, Joab 4, D. Lizama 3, J. Lizama 2.

Scoring by halves: 17-10, 38-29.

DOVE

From Page 20

With the win, Southern United gained a share of second place with Kanoa, as they have identical 2-1-2 win-draw-loss record.

Shirley's 7, TanHoldings 2

Shirley's tightened its grip on the top spot of the division after coasting past TanHoldings.

Jasmine Phane and Jerlyn Castillo fired two goals apiece for Shirley's, which is still unbeaten in five games. Fiona Bucalig, Gabi Race, and Katrina Costales also contributed to Shirley's fifth win after making one goal each.

TanHoldings, which has yet to enter the win column this season, drew its pair of goals from Rizza Relucio and Tamia Hix.

DIVISION B Shirley's 2, Southern United 0

Shirley's is also unscathed in Division B following its victory over Southern United.

Jeraldine Castillo broke Shirley's silence when she scored in the 41st minute, while Marilou Arriola recorded the other goal for the division-leading team, which is unbeaten in five games.

Southern United absorbed its second loss to Shirley's and stayed in second place in the team standings.

MP United 1, Kanoa 0

MP United got its second win of the season after nosing out Kanoa.

Soledad Quan logged the lone goal in the game to help Kanoa tie TanHoldings in third place. Kanoa FC, on the other hand, remains at the cellar as it is still winless after five matches.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Team Roil Soil went home the biggest winner in last Saturday's 17th Annual Mahi Mahi Fishing Derby after winning the side bet for reeling in the heaviest wahoo of the one-day tournament.

Captain Shayne Villanueva and his three crewmembers—Angel Reyes, Francis Buniag, and Jerome Sablan—aboard the *Sun Bird* caught a whopping wahoo that tipped the scales at 21.2 lbs to win the side bet prize of \$2,400 which was \$400 more than the \$2,000 won by the actual 17th Annual Mahi Mahi Fishing Derby champion Team 10/7.

"We got very lucky. We had some very experienced anglers in the derby. So many great fisherman and 59 boats on the water. We just got lucky," Villanueva told *Saipan Tribune* when asked about the team's fortunes during the derby.

He said winning the side bet was not only fortuitous, but also was a good way to celebrate one of his crewmates' birthday.

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compete, while William S. Reyes Elementary School, Saipan Community School, and Isla Montessori will have their turn tomorrow, April 14, with Tinian and Rota elementary schools joining them after the qualifiers.

Gross said despite the restrictions and lack of people in the stands to cheer athletes, he's just glad that the All Schools Track and Field Championship is back.

He said they've broken the elementary school qualifiers into two groups to enable them to practice social distancing more effectively. The same will be done with the middle school and high school qualifiers, which will both kick off



MARK RABAGO

Captain Shayne Villanueva and his crew aboard the *Sun Bird* are awarded their \$2,400 cash prize for winning the wahoo side bet in 17th Annual Mahi Mahi Fishing Derby at the weighing station of Smiling Cove Marina last Saturday.

"We were excited to win. It was my cousin Jerome Sablan's 40th birthday. So it was nice to celebrate that milestone with a memory of our first-ever derby as the side bet winner. He was our good-luck charm."

The winning wahoo was caught right outside the northern part of Tinian's waters some three hours after the *Sun Bird* sailed from the Smiling Cove Marina.

"It wasn't an easy fight. The water was rough and we fought it for about 25 minutes," said

Villanueva, who added that he and his crewmembers are humbled to have been blessed by the bounty of the sea Saturday, considering they went up against more experienced fishermen like the crew of the *Lucky Harvest*, MV *Gloria Victoria*, just to name a few.

While there were no cash or in-kind prizes for second and third places, coming in runners-up to Roil Soil in the wahoo side bet category was Kaimana of captain James Roberto aboard

the boat of the same name. He and his lone crewmember, Ryan Camacho, managed to wrangle a 19.7-lb wahoo.

Ocean Fever of captain Larry Williams and Felin Nauti of captain Victor Salas tied for third place with a catch that weighed 17.8 lbs.

The main sponsor of the year's 17th Annual Mahi Mahi Fishing Derby is Budweiser and the sporting event was organized by the Saipan Fishermen's Association.

next Wednesday, April 21.

In all events at all age levels—9U, 12U, 14U, and 18U—the Top 6 competitors coming out of the qualifiers will be invited to the championships, along with Tinian and Rota's top performers, scheduled in the elementary division for May 7-8 and the middle school and high school division on May 14-15.

In yesterday's results, SIS' Moshi Sikkell and Jude Rayphand dominated the running events in the 9U boys after topping their respective heats. In the 200m, Rayphand was the first to cross the finish line in a time of 36.66 followed by Kagman's Jayvon Dela Cruz and Ashton Manalo with times of 41.12 and 41.66, respectively.

Sikkell, meanwhile, had the fastest time in the 200m, as

he outprinted all comers in his heat with a time of 30:38. He was followed by Brilliant Star's Aiden Camacho (31:63) and Kagman's Tatum Jones (41:52).

In the 800m, Rayphand also topped his heat with a time of 3:30:74, followed by Brilliant Star's Evan Poole (3:35:13) and SIS' Gabriel Walsh (3:54:41). Sikkell again had the fastest time in the event after finishing first in his heat with a time of 2:26:35. The only runner in his heat was Brilliant Star's Danny Cheng (2:55:99).

In the 60m sprint, Rayphand was at it again, topping his heat in a time of 10:16 with Dela Cruz (10:63) and Manalo (11:45) in his coat-tails. Sikkell was far and away a class by himself in 60m as he

made short work of the track in a time of 8:6. Camacho and Jones again finished second and third with times of 8:85 and 10:81, respectively.

Results of the 9U girls 60m, 200m, and 400m as well as the boys and girls long jump will be reported in the next issues of the *Saipan Tribune*.

The All Schools meet is NMA's grassroots program and has produced talented athletes who represented the CNMI in international tournaments, such as the World Championships and the Oceania Area Championships.

The event has also served as a training ground for young athletes wanting to don the Commonwealth colors in regional competitions like the Micronesian Games and Micronesian Championships.



Schwarber
returns as
Washington beats
St. Louis, 5-2

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'Over 800
athletes
expected for
Mini Games'

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Shutout wins in Dove women's league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Dove Women's Spring League 2021 returned to action at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville with five of the six winning g shutout victories last Sunday.

In the Masters Division, Paire Football Club-1 blanked, Kanoa FC, 4-0, to keep the lead in their group. Lindsay Davis and Natalie Hill-Beyer teamed up in handing Paire-1 the easy win after scoring two goals apiece. Davis drew first blood with her goal in the 24th minute, while Paire-1's last three goals were made in a span of five minutes. Hill-Beyer found the back of the net in the 33rd minute, while Davis got her second two minutes later before the former closed out for Paire-1 in the 38th.

Paire-1 handed Kanoa its fifth loss in as many games and the latter remains at the bottom of the team standings.

In the other Masters Division match, Paire-2 also eased past TanHoldings, 3-0, to keep pace with Paire-1 in the leaderboard.

Three different players



scored for Paire-2 to give the team its third win for second place in the team standings. Lindsay Nash handed Paire-2 its first goal in the 14th minute, while Shawna Brennfleck made it 2-0 for the team five minutes later. Robyn Spaeth capped Paire-2's shutout win after hitting the board in the 43rd minute.

DIVISION A Southern United 7, Kanoa 0

Jannah Casarino delivered a hat-trick to power Southern United to a lopsided win over Kanoa.

Casarino made the goals in streaks, starting her run in the 26th minute and scoring the last two in the 38th and 41st. Kaithlynn Chavez also earned goals in consecutive fashion with her first registered in the 44th minute and the last five minutes later. Christina



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Southern United Football Club player, right, and Kanoa Football Club player battle for possession during their game in Division A of the Dove Women's Spring League 2021 last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Atalig and Stephanie Flores were the other scorers for Southern United, hitting their target in the third and fifth minute, respectively.

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All Schools returns under new norm

By MARK RABAGO
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The Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship started yesterday under a new norm forced by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Instead of a multitude of athletes, coaches, parents, and

classmates cramming themselves into the Oleai Track and Field, Public School System athletic director Nick Gross made sure social distancing was observed by staggering participants for the event.

On the first day of the el-



ementary qualifiers yesterday, Saipan International School, Agape Christian School, Kagman Elementary School, and Brilliant Star School were the only schools scheduled to

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MARK RABAGO

Runners from Saipan International School and Kagman Elementary School line up in the starting line of the 9U 60m in yesterday's Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship at the Oleai Track and Field.

Rollers Black also dominate U14

By MARK RABAGO
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For the second time in the day and the third time in the weekend, Rollers Black again proved the team to beat in the Rollers Basketball Association 2021 Spring Madness League after their U14 squad beat Ol'Aces, 38-21, in the championship game last Sunday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

In the last championship game Sunday, elimination round top-notcher Rollers Black didn't allow Ol'Aces to force a do-or-die second game in the U14 finals by dominating their opponents from the get-go.

Rollers Black coach Mike Mercado's players spread the wealth in the opening half

with five different players tossing in 5 points each to give them a 17-10 advantage going into the break. Justin Camacho tried his best to make the game competitive by firing 6 markers for Ol'Aces in the first half.

After Finals MVP Christian Lucero, Mykee Mercado, and Eros Estolas combined for all but 2 of the team's 17 first half points, it was the turn of their teammates to lead Rollers Black to the Promised Land in the second half.



Luckily they delivered as J.P. Pineda and Lance Lariel exploded for 7 points each in the game's final 20 minutes, as Rollers Black again dominated en route to the 9-point win. Keahie Camacho picked up where Justin Camacho left off in the second half, unloading 6 of his 8 points but to no avail.

Lariel paced a balanced Rollers Black offensive attack by scoring 9 points, while Lucero, Pineda, and

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rollers Black players and coach Joe Diaz pose for a group photo after winning the U14 championship of the Rollers Basketball Association 2021 Spring Madness League last Sunday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.